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INVESTIGATION OF SENSITIVITY OF COMPLEX  
REACTING SYSTEMS TO CHEMICAL REACTION  
RATES

John H. Schaibly, et al

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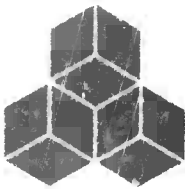
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**INVESTIGATION OF SENSITIVITY OF COMPLEX  
REACTING SYSTEMS TO CHEMICAL  
REACTION RATES**

**Annual Report**

by

**John H. Schaibly  
Russell E. Duff**

**Sponsored by:  
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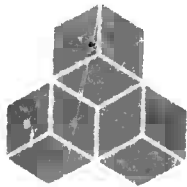
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## 13. ABSTRACT

Two methods have been developed to investigate the sensitivity of numerical solutions of sets of coupled non-linear differential equations to uncertainties in the modeling parameters entering the calculations. The methods determine the sensitivity by performing the calculations for a set of values of the modeling parameters within the estimated uncertainty range of each. The methods are demonstrated for two chemical reaction systems.

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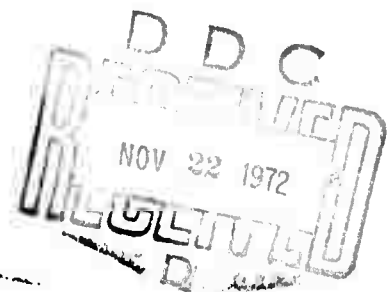
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Systems, Science and Software (S<sup>3</sup>) has begun a study to develop methods which can be used to determine the sensitivity of numerical solutions of sets of coupled differential equations to uncertainties in modeling parameters entering the calculations. The first year effort has been funded by the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) under ONR contract N00014-71-C-0347. This report describes work performed in this effort.

ARPA's interest in this problem has been stimulated primarily by a need on the part of the defense community to develop computational models to describe certain weapons effects in which non-equilibrium chemistry plays an important role. For such phenomena an accurate treatment of the kinetics of the chemical system requires that:

- (1) All of the relevant species and the important reactions which occur among them are included.
- (2) Accurate values of the important rate coefficients are known.

For many applications there is much debate, largely based on intuition, about which species are relevant, which reactions are important, and which rate coefficients must be known accurately. It is desirable, therefore, for ARPA to have at its disposal objective tools which can be used to help answer questions of priority for the allocation of their resources to experimental determinations of rate constants.

A second motivation for the research is to provide tools whereby the military and technical community can probe large complex systems to understand more fully the principles by which their constituent parts interact. In this

respect, our methods are not limited to chemical systems, but may be applied to a wide variety of systems for which computational modeling is appropriate. For definiteness, however, the methods will be described in the context of non-equilibrium chemical systems to which they have been exclusively applied to date.

The methods which are being developed make use of the capability to solve the chemical kinetics problem several times for different values of the rate coefficients within their expected bands of uncertainty, and to interpret the results of these calculations in such a way as to determine the relative sensitivity of the results to the uncertainties in rate coefficients. It is useful to introduce the concept of an "output function" which in this report will mean a number which is of interest calculated from the model. Examples of output functions are:

- One of the concentrations at a particular time.
- A concentration maximum over all time.
- The time at which a concentration reaches some threshold.
- The maximum temperature attained by the system.
- The radiation intensity at a particular point in space at a specified time.

An output function is regarded as a function only of the rate coefficients of the model, and therefore uncertainties in the rate coefficients contribute to an uncertainty in the output function.

Since the dependence of an arbitrary output function will be, in general, a complicated, non-linear function of the rate coefficients, traditional analytical investigations are usually impossible. The importance of the various rate coefficients may not be determined by investigating each one separately holding the others fixed because of the complex interaction between reactions. Furthermore, the output function may be very sensitive to the rate coefficients in a localized region within the uncertainty limits rather than at the upper and lower bounds of

uncertainty. Such regions would be missed by a sensitivity analysis which examined only maximum and minimum values of the rate coefficients.

Mathematically, the problem reduces to that of investigating a non-linear function of many variables over a domain of its arguments. The procedure is therefore characterized by two parts:

- (1) Selection of a number of points at which one will evaluate the function.
- (2) Determination of the relative sensitivity of the function to the various arguments on the basis of the function evaluations.

The methods which have been developed prescribe a sequence of values of rate coefficients at which the output function is evaluated. All of the rate coefficients vary simultaneously along the sequence of points. Two different approaches have been formulated which we shall call the Fourier method and optimization methods. In the Fourier method, the sequence of rate coefficient values for the analysis is prescribed before any calculations of the output function are obtained, whereas in the optimization methods, later points in the sequence are determined by the values of the output function calculated at earlier points. In the Fourier method only values of the output function are computed whereas some of the optimization methods require the calculation of various partial derivatives of the output function with respect to the various rate coefficients.

The methods are designed to accommodate output functions of an arbitrarily large number of rate coefficients, although the cost of performing the sensitivity analysis increases rapidly with this number. To date the methods have been applied only to the relatively simple systems described below. The systems are sufficiently simple that some results of the methods can be qualitatively verified by intuition or hindsight. The three systems which have been considered in some detail are:

- (1) Various "simulation functions" which are merely analytical functions of several parameters.
- (2) A chemical system describing the high temperature dissociation of air (five concentrations, ten reactions).
- (3) A chemical system describing the combustion of hydrogen (six concentrations, eighteen reactions).

While these examples are extremely simple compared to the systems for which the methods are needed most, they do demonstrate the feasibility of the methods, and strongly suggest their applicability to more complex systems.

In order to apply the methods to chemical systems, one must be able to solve a set of chemical rate equations. Many techniques have been developed for such problems, and a code called KEM developed at S<sup>3</sup> using the Gear algorithm was used. Investigating the accuracy or efficiency of the integration technique or comparing various techniques was outside the scope of the research effort. The KEM calculation is essentially regarded as a subroutine which gives an output function for a specified set of rate coefficients.

In Sections 2.1 through 2.4 the formulation of the Fourier method is presented, and in Section 2.5 the results of the sensitivity analysis using this method for the two chemical systems described above is summarized. In Section 2.6 a Monte Carlo technique for obtaining the same results is compared to the Fourier method.

In Section 3.1 the optimization methods are described and in Section 3.2, comparisons of several optimization methods are described for a simulation function. In Section 3.3 an optimization method is applied to the air dissociation chemical system. In Section 4 a summary of the work and proposed extensions are presented.

## 2. THE FOURIER METHOD

### 2.1 FORMULATION OF THE METHOD

The Fourier method is an attempt to investigate certain characteristics of a scalar function of several variables over a convex domain by simply evaluating the function at a finite set of points within the domain. More specifically, the function is evaluated at a set of points along a curved line within the domain. While the formulation of the method is independent of the nature of the output function, and the variables on which it depends, the notation and phraseology of this discussion will reflect the context of a specific application in which the output function,  $f$ , is a concentration of a chemical species in an isothermal, constant density reacting system, and the independent variables  $k_i$ ,  $i = 1, n$  are the rate constants which appear in the kinetic equations which describe the reacting system. The region of interest in the  $k$ -space is that spanned by the estimated uncertainties in the current determination of the rate constants.

The curved line on which  $f$  is to be evaluated is defined by the single parameter,  $s$ , by the specification

$$k_i = k_i^0 e^{u_i} \quad (2.1)$$

and

$$u_i = u_i^0 \sin \omega_i s, \quad i = 1, n \quad (2.2)$$

The introduction of the parameter  $s$  provides a convenient prescription for varying all of the rate constants simultaneously. By selecting a set of  $s$  values, a set of values of  $k$  are obtained distributed within the  $n$  dimensional uncertainty domain.

The modus operandi of the Fourier method is to select a set of distinct "input" frequencies  $\{\omega_i\}$ , one for each reaction rate being investigated. A set of values of  $s$  are also chosen, and the output function  $f$  is evaluated for each value (for the set of  $\{k_i\}$  specified for each value of  $s$  through Equations (2.1) and (2.2)).  $f$  may thus be viewed as a function of  $s$ ,

$$f(s) \equiv f[k_1(s), k_2(s), \dots, k_n(s)] \quad , \quad (2.3)$$

and this function is Fourier analyzed to obtain the sine and cosine amplitudes corresponding to various frequencies.

## 2.2 QUALITATIVE INTERPRETATION OF THE FOURIER AMPLITUDES, INTERFERENCES, AND ALIASING

It is convenient to assume for the moment that all the frequencies are incommensurate (irrational). It is impossible to represent such frequencies in a digital computer, but the exercise sheds light on the qualitative interpretation of the amplitudes. Furthermore, it will be assumed that  $f$  is an analytic function of all the rate coefficients in the domain defined by the uncertainties. If the amplitudes corresponding to input frequency  $\omega_i$  and its harmonics are very small, the uncertainty in the  $i$ th reaction rate is unimportant in determining the uncertainty of  $f$ . If, on the other hand, the amplitude of  $\omega_i$  is large, the contribution from the uncertainty of the  $i$ th rate coefficient to the output function is large. In Section 2.4 the magnitude of the Fourier coefficient will be related to an average of  $\partial f / \partial u$  over the  $u$ -space characterizing the uncertainties.

In practice, the unique identification of a frequency with the rate coefficient it represents may be obscured by two effects: interferences between frequencies, and aliasing. Interferences arise from the fact that incommensurate frequencies may not be chosen since they cannot be represented on a digital computer. Commensurate frequencies have the property that they cannot be linearly independent with respect to integer coefficients. If, for example,

$$\omega_1 + 2\omega_2 = \omega_3 \quad , \quad (2.4)$$

the amplitudes corresponding to  $\omega_3$  will reflect not only the effects of the uncertainty of  $k_3$ , but also  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  through the interference.

Aliasing arises whenever a finite number of points are chosen on the interval to evaluate the Fourier amplitude, and the effects are more serious when evenly spaced points are chosen. For example, if  $N$  equally spaced points are chosen, the amplitudes for  $\omega_L$  will unavoidably include the amplitudes of a component with frequency  $\omega_M$  present in  $f(s)$  which satisfies the relation

$$\omega_L = mN - \omega_M \quad (2.5)$$

where  $m$  is an arbitrary integer.

The current method takes the frequencies  $\omega_i$  to be integers and evaluates the output function at evenly spaced discrete values of  $s$  on the interval  $0 < s \leq 2\pi$ . This choice was motivated by the goal of reducing as much as possible the number of points to be evaluated to obtain the Fourier amplitudes as shown in the next section.

### 2.3 CHOICE OF FREQUENCIES AND THE METHOD OF FOURIER ANALYSIS

The Fourier sine amplitude corresponding to an arbitrary frequency  $\omega_L$  associated with the  $L$ th rate coefficient is defined as

$$A_L = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \sin \omega_L s f[k_1(s), \dots, k_n(s)] ds \quad , \quad (2.6)$$

and the cosine amplitude is defined as the same integral with the sine function replaced by a cosine function. Since this integral is to be performed numerically



and it is important to minimize the number of  $s$  points used in the integral, it seems advantageous to replace this integral over the infinite interval by one over a finite interval. This may be done provided only rational frequencies are present in the function  $f$ . For output functions which are sufficiently smooth, one can insure that only rational frequencies appear by specifying that the input frequencies themselves are rational. It is convenient to further simplify the integral by the transformations in Appendix A which show that Equation (2.6) with rational frequencies reduces to Equation (2.7) with integer frequencies  $\omega'_i$  defining the  $k$ 's through Equations (2.1) and (2.2),

$$A_L = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} ds \sin \omega'_L s f[k_1(s), \dots, k_n(s)] \quad (2.7)$$

In the remainder of this section, integer input frequencies will be assumed.

### 2.3.1 Choice of Noninterfering Frequencies

Since integer frequencies are to be input, various sums and differences of those frequencies will coincide. The frequencies must be chosen so as to minimize these interferences in some sense.

We define an interference of  $n$ th order as a linear combination of  $n$  frequencies with coefficients  $\pm 1$ . Thus,  $\omega_1 - 2\omega_2$  is an interference of third order, while  $\omega_1 - \omega_3 - 2\omega_2 - \omega_1$  is also an interference of third order, that is,  $\omega_3 - 2\omega_2$ .

In order to understand the meaning of the interference amplitudes in relation to the variation of the output function with the rate constants, it is convenient to consider  $f$  as a function of the various  $u_i$  instead of as a function of the  $k_i$  through the transformation in Equation (2.1). Assuming that  $f$  is a bounded, continuous function of  $u_i$  with partial derivatives of all orders in the

region  $-u_i^0 \leq u_i \leq u_i^0$ , it may be expanded in a Taylor series about the point  $u_i = 0, i = 1, n$ .

$$f(u_1, \dots, u_n) = f_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \left( f_i u_i + f_{ii} u_i^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$+ \sum_{i \neq j}^n \left( f_{ij} u_i u_j + f_{ijj} u_i u_j^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$+ \sum_{i \neq j \neq k=1}^n \left( f_{ijk} u_i u_j u_k + f_{iijk} u_i^2 u_j u_k \right.$$

$$\left. + f_{iiijk} u_i^3 u_j u_k + \dots \right)$$

+ ...

(2.8)

where, for example,

$$f_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} \frac{1}{2!} \quad .$$

(2.9)

The function  $f$  can also be expanded in a Fourier series

$$f(s) = B_0 + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \left( A_{\ell} \sin \ell s + B_{\ell} \cos \ell s \right) .$$

(2.10)

Substituting  $u_i = u_i^0 \sin \omega_i s$  into Equation (2.8) a series is obtained, the terms of which contain products of various powers of trigonometric functions, i.e.,

$$\sin^p \omega_i s \sin^q \omega_j s . \quad (2.11)$$

By using the identity

$$e^{i\omega_i s p} e^{i\omega_j s q} = e^{is(p\omega_i + q\omega_j)} , \quad (2.12)$$

and realizing that  $p\omega_i + q\omega_j$  is integer, one observes that the two series contain exactly the same terms making the identification of the  $A_\ell, B_\ell$  with various sums of partial derivatives evaluated at the point  $u_i = 0, i = 1, n$ . Furthermore, a pth order interference in the Fourier series arises from terms in the Taylor expansion of order p or greater. In fact, if  $f$  were linear in all  $u$ 's, the only frequencies appearing the Fourier decomposition would be the input frequencies.

The assumption is tacitly made that, in general, high order interferences (and, therefore, high order terms in  $u$ ) are small compared with lower order interferences and, therefore, it will be adequate to select the input frequencies in such a way as to eliminate effects of interferences below, say, Mth order. Interferences above Mth order will give rise to inaccuracies in the amplitudes. From the standpoint of interferences, therefore, one prefers to choose frequencies consistent with large  $M$ , which turn out to be relatively large integers. On the other hand, the number of output function evaluations necessary to evaluate the Fourier amplitudes of large frequencies is greater than that necessary for small frequencies. The method which has been investigated to date makes use of frequencies for which no interferences of the order of less than five coincide with the input frequencies.

### 2.3.1.1 Numerical Procedure for Determining the Frequencies

The method currently used to determine the integer input frequencies,  $\omega_i$ , is essentially a trial and error procedure. The object is to find a set of  $m$  integers  $\omega_i$  such that no interferences of the order of four or less will coincide with an input frequency. Explicitly,

$$p\omega_j + q\omega_k + r\omega_\ell + s\omega_m \neq \omega_i, \quad i \neq m \neq \ell \neq k \neq j$$

where  $\omega_j, \omega_k, \omega_\ell, \omega_m$  and  $\omega_i$  are input frequencies, and the coefficients obey

$$\text{and } -4 \leq p, q, r, s \leq 4,$$

$$|p| + |q| + |r| + |s| \leq 4. \quad (2.13)$$

An obvious simplification is made by choosing all odd integers for the input frequencies so that there are no coincidences with second order or fourth order interferences. The only conditions that remain to be satisfied are that

$$\omega_i - \omega_j \neq \omega_k - \omega_\ell \quad (2.14a)$$

and

$$\omega_i + \omega_j \neq \omega_k - \omega_\ell. \quad (2.14b)$$

The first step is to find an ordered set of differences such that Equation (2.14a) is satisfied, that is, a set of  $d_i$  such that

$$d_m^* = \sum_{i=1}^m d_i \quad (2.15)$$

are distinct for  $1 \leq m \leq n-1$ . This is done recursively, and while there exist many solutions for a particular  $n$ , one wishes to find the set with the minimum largest difference  $d_{\max}$

$$d_{\max} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} d_i \quad (2.16)$$

which determines, in part, the largest frequency.

The process proceeds as follows. A table is begun for  $n=3$ , with the ordered set of frequencies  $\omega_1 < \omega_2 < \omega_3$ , and the ordered set of differences,  $d_1 = \omega_2 - \omega_1$ , and  $d_2 = \omega_3 - \omega_2$ .  $d_i$  are determined to be the smallest possible even numbers (excepting 2), i.e.,

$$d_1 = 4 \quad , \quad d_2 = 6 \quad .$$

The difference  $d_2^* = d_1 + d_2 = 10$  also occurs and is distinct from  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ . It is convenient to express the results in a triangular table

$$\begin{array}{cc} 4 & 6 \\ 10 & . \end{array}$$

To continue the process for  $n=4$ , one chooses  $d_3 = 8$  (must be distinct) and the  $d^*$  are determined by forming the diagonal as shown below

$$\begin{array}{cccc} i = & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ & 10 & 14 & \\ & 18 & & \end{array}$$

from upper right to lower left ( $i=n-1$ ,  $i=1$ ), the element in the  $i$ th column being

the sum of the diagonal in the  $i+1$  st column and the difference appearing at the top of the  $i$  th column. The successive  $d_i$  are chosen so that no number in the entire table is repeated.

One is not restricted to choosing the next  $d_i$  to be the lowest unused even integer, but experience shows that as a general rule this choice will result in the lower frequencies. Two sets of differences have been calculated and are presented in Tables 2.1 and 2.2. The set of differences in Table 2.1 use the lowest possible unused difference to increment  $n$ , while in Table 2.2  $d_2$  was taken not to be the lowest unused even number, 6, but 8. It appears that the frequencies from either method are equally good, and that the results are not strongly dependent on the ordering of small differences. Furthermore, since the even numbers between  $d_1$  and  $d_n$  which are omitted is relatively small, it appears that little improvement could be made by finding the optimal ordering since  $d_{\max}$  would not change significantly.

The set of differences for  $n$  ordered frequencies is the set of the first  $n-1$  differences of the top row in either table. For example, for  $n=6$ , the differences in Table 2.2 are: 4, 8, 6, 10, 20.

After a set of differences are found for a particular  $n$ , the whole set of frequencies is determined by specifying the lowest frequency. In the example above, with  $n=6$ , one assigns the differences in reverse order and assigns  $\omega_1 = 1$  to obtain the frequency set: 1, 21, 31, 37, 45, 49. The second step is to add to all frequencies the same integer until Equation (2.14b) is satisfied,

$$\omega_i + \omega_j \neq \omega_k - \omega_l \quad . \quad (2.17)$$

Frequencies for which no interferences of order less than 5 coincide with an input frequency have been calculated for  $n \leq 19$  and the frequency sets are shown in Table 2.3.

Table 2.1

SET OF DIFFERENCES FOR WHICH  $d_m^* = \sum_{i=1}^m d_i$

ARE DISTINCT,  $d_2 = 6$

4	6	8	12	16	22	32	48	74	110	136	160	188	216	240	264	288	312	336	360	384	408	432	456	480	504	528	552	576	600	624	648	672	696	720	744	768	792	816	840	864	888	912	936	960	984	1008	1032	1056	1080	1104	1128	1152	1176	1200	1224	1248	1272	1296	1320	1344	1368	1392	1416	1440	1464	1488	1512	1536	1560	1584	1608	1632	1656	1680	1704	1728	1752	1776	1800	1824	1848	1872	1896	1920	1944	1968	1992	2016	2040	2064	2088	2112	2136	2160	2184	2208	2232	2256	2280	2304	2328	2352	2376	2400	2424	2448	2472	2496	2520	2544	2568	2592	2616	2640	2664	2688	2712	2736	2760	2784	2808	2832	2856	2880	2904	2928	2952	2976	3000	3024	3048	3072	3096	3120	3144	3168	3192	3216	3240	3264	3288	3312	3336	3360	3384	3408	3432	3456	3480	3504	3528	3552	3576	3600	3624	3648	3672	3696	3720	3744	3768	3792	3816	3840	3864	3888	3912	3936	3960	3984	4008	4032	4056	4080	4104	4128	4152	4176	4200	4224	4248	4272	4296	4320	4344	4368	4392	4416	4440	4464	4488	4512	4536	4560	4584	4608	4632	4656	4680	4704	4728	4752	4776	4800	4824	4848	4872	4896	4920	4944	4968	4992	5016	5040	5064	5088	5112	5136	5160	5184	5208	5232	5256	5280	5304	5328	5352	5376	5400	5424	5448	5472	5496	5520	5544	5568	5592	5616	5640	5664	5688	5712	5736	5760	5784	5808	5832	5856	5880	5904	5928	5952	5976	6000	6024	6048	6072	6096	6120	6144	6168	6192	6216	6240	6264	6288	6312	6336	6360	6384	6408	6432	6456	6480	6504	6528	6552	6576	6600	6624	6648	6672	6696	6720	6744	6768	6792	6816	6840	6864	6888	6912	6936	6960	6984	7008	7032	7056	7080	7104	7128	7152	7176	7200	7224	7248	7272	7296	7320	7344	7368	7392	7416	7440	7464	7488	7512	7536	7560	7584	7608	7632	7656	7680	7704	7728	7752	7776	7800	7824	7848	7872	7896	7920	7944	7968	7992	8016	8040	8064	8088	8112	8136	8160	8184	8208	8232	8256	8280	8304	8328	8352	8376	8400	8424	8448	8472	8496	8520	8544	8568	8592	8616	8640	8664	8688	8712	8736	8760	8784	8808	8832	8856	8880	8904	8928	8952	8976	9000	9024	9048	9072	9096	9120	9144	9168	9192	9216	9240	9264	9288	9312	9336	9360	9384	9408	9432	9456	9480	9504	9528	9552	9576	9600	9624	9648	9672	9696	9720	9744	9768	9792	9816	9840	9864	9888	9912	9936	9960	9984	10008	10032	10056	10080	10104	10128	10152	10176	10200	10224	10248	10272	10296	10320	10344	10368	10392	10416	10440	10464	10488	10512	10536	10560	10584	10608	10632	10656	10680	10704	10728	10752	10776	10800	10824	10848	10872	10896	10920	10944	10968	10992	11016	11040	11064	11088	11112	11136	11160	11184	11208	11232	11256	11280	11304	11328	11352	11376	11400	11424	11448	11472	11496	11520	11544	11568	11592	11616	11640	11664	11688	11712	11736	11760	11784	11808	11832	11856	11880	11904	11928	11952	11976	12000	12024	12048	12072	12096	12120	12144	12168	12192	12216	12240	12264	12288	12312	12336	12360	12384	12408	12432	12456	12480	12504	12528	12552	12576	12600	12624	12648	12672	12696	12720	12744	12768	12792	12816	12840	12864	12888	12912	12936	12960	12984	13008	13032	13056	13080	13104	13128	13152	13176	13200	13224	13248	13272	13296	13320	13344	13368	13392	13416	13440	13464	13488	13512	13536	13560	13584	13608	13632	13656	13680	13704	13728	13752	13776	13800	13824	13848	13872	13896	13920	13944	13968	13992	14016	14040	14064	14088	14112	14136	14160	14184	14208	14232	14256	14280	14304	14328	14352	14376	14400	14424	14448	14472	14496	14520	14544	14568	14592	14616	14640	14664	14688	14712	14736	14760	14784	14808	14832	14856	14880	14904	14928	14952	14976	15000	15024	15048	15072	15096	15120	15144	15168	15192	15216	15240	15264	15288	15312	15336	15360	15384	15408	15432	15456	15480	15504	15528	15552	15576	15600	15624	15648	15672	15696	15720	15744	15768	15792	15816	15840	15864	15888	15912	15936	15960	15984	16008	16032	16056	16080	16104	16128	16152	16176	16200	16224	16248	16272	16296	16320	16344	16368	16392	16416	16440	16464	16488	16512	16536	16560	16584	16608	16632	16656	16680	16704	16728	16752	16776	16800	16824	16848	16872	16896	16920	16944	16968	16992	17016	17040	17064	17088	17112	17136	17160	17184	17208	17232	17256	17280	17304	17328	17352	17376	17400	17424	17448	17472	17496	17520	17544	17568	17592	17616	17640	17664	17688	17712	17736	17760	17784	17808	17832	17856	17880	17904	17928	17952	17976	18000	18024	18048	18072	18096	18120	18144	18168	18192	18216	18240	18264	18288	18312	18336	18360	18384	18408	18432	18456	18480	18504	18528	18552	18576	18600	18624	18648	18672	18696	18720	18744	18768	18792	18816	18840	18864	18888	18912	18936	18960	18984	19008	19032	19056	19080	19104	19128	19152	19176	19200	19224	19248	19272	19296	19320	19344	19368	19392	19416	19440	19464	19488	19512	19536	19560	19584	19608	19632	19656	19680	19704	19728	19752	19776	19800	19824	19848	19872	19896	19920	19944	19968	19992	20016	20040	20064	20088	20112	20136	20160	20184	20208	20232	20256	20280	20304	20328	20352	20376	20400	20424	20448	20472	20496	20520	20544	20568	20592	20616	20640	20664	20688	20712	20736	20760	20784	20808	20832	20856	20880	20904	20928	20952	20976	21000	21024	21048	21072	21096	21120	21144	21168	21192	21216	21240	21264	21288	21312	21336	21360	21384	21408	21432	21456	21480	21504	21528	21552	21576	21600	21624	21648	21672	21696	21720	21744	21768	21792	21816	21840	21864	21888	21912	21936	21960	21984	22008	22032	22056	22080	22104	22128	22152	22176	22200	22224	22248	22272	22296	22320	22344	22368	22392	22416	22440	22464	22488	22512	22536	22560	22584	22608	22632	22656	22680	22704	22728	22752	22776	22800	22824	22848	22872	22896	22920	22944	22968	22992	23016	23040	23064	23088	23112	23136	23160	23184	23208	23232	23256	23280	23304	23328	23352	23376	23400	23424	23448	23472	23496	23520	23544	23568	23592	23616	23640	23664	23688	23712	23736	23760	23784	23808	23832	23856	23880	23904	23928	23952	23976	24000	24024	24048	24072	24096	24120	24144	24168	24192	24216	24240	24264	24288	24312	24336	24360	24384	24408	24432	24456	24480	24504	24528	24552	24576	24600	24624	24648	24672	24696	24720	24744	24768	24792	24816	24840	24864	24888	24912	24936	24960	24984	25008	25032	25056	25080	25104	25128	25152	25176	25200	25224	25248	25272	25296	25320	25344	25368	25392	25416	25440	25464	25488	25512	25536	25560	25584	25608	25632	25656	25680	25704	25728	25752	25776	25800	25824	25848	25872	25896	25920	25944	25968	25992	26016	26040	26064	26088	26112	26136	26160	26184	26208	26232	26256	26280	26304	26328	26352	26376	26400	26424	26448	26472	26496	26520	26544	26568	26592	26616	26640	26664	26688	26712	26736	26760	26784	26808	26832	26856	26880	26904	26928	26952	26976	27000	27024	27048	27072	27096	27120	27144	27168	27192	27216	27240	27264	27288	27312	27336	27360	27384	27408	27432	27456	27480	27504	27528	27552	27576	27600	27624	27648	27672	27696	27720	27744	27768	27792	27816	27840	27864	27888	27912	27936	27960	27984	28008	28032	28056	28080	28104	28128	28152	28176	28200	28224	28248	28272	28296	28320	28344	28368	28392	28416	28440	28464	28488	28512	28536	28560	28584	28608	28632	28656	28680	28704	28728	28752	28776	28800	28824	28848	28872	28896	28920	28944	28968	28992	29016	29040	29064	29088	29112	29136	29160	29184	29208	29232	29256	29280	29304	29328	29352	29376	29400	29424	29448	29472	29496	29520	29544	29568	29592	29616	29640	29664	29688	29712	29736	29760	29784	29808	29832	29856	29880	29904	29928	29952	29976	30000	30024	30048	30072	30096	30120	30144	30168	30192	30216	30240	30264	30288	30312	
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SET OF DIFFERENCES FOR WHICH  $d_m^* = \sum_{i=1}^m d_i$   
ARE DISTINCT,  $d_2 = 8$

[illegible]



Table 2.3

FREQUENCY SETS AND CORRESPONDING NUMBER OF  
POINTS AVOIDING INTERFERENCES AND  
ALIASES OF INTERFERENCES THROUGH 4<sup>th</sup> ORDER

Dimensionality	Frequency Set	Minimum Number of Points
5	11, 21, 27, 35, 39	142
5*	2, 42, 62, 74, 90	191
6	1, 21, 31, 37, 45, 49	182
6*	2, 42, 62, 74, 90, 98	231
7	17, 39, 59, 69, 75, 83, 87	334
8	23, 55, 77, 97, 107, 113, 121, 125	486
9	19, 59, 91, 113, 133, 143 149, 157, 161	630
10	25, 63, 103, 135, 157, 177, 187, 193, 201, 205	806
11	41, 67, 105, 145, 177, 199, 219, 229, 235, 243, 247	974
12	31, 87, 113, 151, 191, 223, 245, 265, 275, 281, 289, 293	1158
13	23, 85, 141, 167, 205, 245, 277, 299, 319, 329, 335, 343, 347	1374
14	87, 133, 195, 251, 277, 315, 355, 387, 409, 429, 439, 445, 453, 457	1814
15	67, 143, 189, 251, 307, 333, 371, 411, 443, 465, 485, 495, 501, 509, 513	2038
16	73, 169, 245, 291, 353, 409, 435, 473, 513, 545, 567, 587, 597, 603, 611, 615	2446
17	85, 145, 241, 317, 363, 425, 481, 507, 545, 585, 617, 639, 659, 669, 675, 683, 687	2734
18	143, 229, 289, 385, 461, 507, 569, 625, 651, 689, 729, 761, 783, 803, 813, 819, 827, 831	3310
19	149, 275, 361, 421, 517, 593, 639, 701, 757, 783, 821, 861, 893, 915, 935, 945, 951, 959, 963	3848

\*These sets of 5 and 6 frequencies are not minimal, but have been used and are only included for completeness. They are also free of interferences and aliases of order less than 5.

### 2.3.2 Fourier Analysis and Avoidance of Aliases

The Fourier analysis could be performed either by evaluating  $f$  at  $N$  evenly spaced or unevenly spaced points on the interval  $(0, 2\pi)$ . Evenly spaced points are chosen although it is not certain that it is an optional choice. Given evenly spaced points, however, it is convenient to replace the integral in Equation (2.7) by a sum. Consider the sum

$$A_L^* = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \sin\left(\omega_L \frac{2\pi\ell}{N}\right) f\left(\frac{2\pi\ell}{N}\right) . \quad (2.18)$$

It is shown in Appendix B that

$$A_L^* = A_L + \text{error} , \quad (2.19)$$

where the error terms called "alias amplitudes" are the amplitudes of various interference frequencies:

$$\text{error} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_j A_{(mN - \omega_j)} , \quad (2.20)$$

where  $\omega_j$  is any frequency appearing in  $f$  satisfying the relation

$$mN - \omega_j = \omega_L , \quad (2.21)$$

where  $m$  is an arbitrary integer. The number  $N$  is chosen so that Equation (2.21) is not satisfied for  $\omega_j$  an interference of order less than 5 and  $\omega_L$  is any input frequency. This number is determined by calculating for a trial  $\bar{N}$

$$m\bar{N} - \omega_L$$

where  $\omega_L$  is an input frequency, and comparing this number with each interference frequency through fourth order.  $N$  is the minimum value of  $\bar{N}$  for which there are no coincidences. The number  $N$  for the frequency sets in Table 2.3 is also shown.

#### 2.4 QUANTITATIVE INTERPRETATION OF THE FOURIER AMPLITUDES; ALTERNATE WEIGHT FUNCTIONS IN $u$ SPACE

One can view the Fourier method as being characterized by a sampling prescription in  $n$ -dimensional  $u$  space in addition to an analysis of the output function evaluated at the selected points. The result of the method depends of all the points sampled, and we show below that certain Fourier amplitudes are related to averages of the output function with various weight functions over the  $n$ -dimensional  $u$  space.

It is shown in Appendix C that if  $f$  is a polynomial function of the  $u$ 's of order  $p-1$ , and the input integer frequency set is chosen so that no interferences of order less than  $p$  coincide with input frequencies, then the one-dimensional integral corresponding to the sine amplitude of input frequency  $\omega_L$  is equal to an  $n$ -dimensional integral over  $u$  space:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_L &\equiv \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} ds f(u_1(s), u_2(s) \dots u_n(s)) \sin \omega_L s \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi^n} \int_{-u_1^0}^{u_1^0} du_1 \int_{-u_2^0}^{u_2^0} du_2 \dots \int_{-u_n^0}^{u_n^0} du_n \frac{u_L}{u_L^0} \frac{f(u_1, u_2, \dots u_n)}{\prod_{i=1}^n u_i^0 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u_i}{u_L^0}\right)^2}}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.22}$$

(This equality does not hold for functions  $f$  of order higher than  $p-1$  and an error term appears proportional to  $(f^{(p)}/2^{p-1})$  as shown in Appendix C.) This

Fourier amplitude is therefore equal to the  $L$ th component of the centroid, weighted by the function

$$W(\bar{u}) = \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u_i}{u_i^o}\right)^2}} \quad (2.23)$$

An alternative form of the multiple integral may be derived by integrating by parts with respect to  $u_L$ , i.e.,

$$A_L = \frac{1}{\pi^n} \int_{-u_1^o}^{u_1^o} du_1 \dots \int_{-u_n^o}^{u_n^o} du_n \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_L} \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u_i}{u_i^o}\right)^2}} \quad (2.24)$$

The weight functions in these multiple integrals emphasize various regions of  $u$ -space. In the form in Equation (2.22), all edges of the hypercube are emphasized equally, whereas in the integral in Equation (2.24), the distribution is uniform in  $u_L$  but emphasizes the edges in the other dimensions. Efforts to modify this weighting will be described below.

The implication of Equation (2.24) is that the Fourier coefficient may be interpreted as an average over the whole uncertainty region of  $\partial f / \partial u_L$ , and it therefore represents a measure of sensitivity. Alternatively, by analyzing  $\ln f$  instead of  $f$  one obtains the measure of sensitivity of the relative uncertainty in  $f$  to the uncertainty of the various rate coefficients, i.e., an average of  $\frac{1}{f} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_L}$ .

The estimated experimental uncertainty,  $u_i^o$ , represents the half width of some distribution of probable values for the reaction rate. Therefore, one can argue that the sampling procedure should emphasize the region of  $u$ -space

near the origin. The appearance of the weight functions which emphasize the boundaries of the region may therefore be undesirable. One can alter the weight function by choosing an alternative definition of  $u_i$  (see Equation (2.2)):

$$u_i = u_i^0 v_i (\sin \omega_i s_i) \quad , \quad (2.25)$$

and choosing  $v_i$  to be a monotonic function of  $\sin \omega_i s_i$ .

We will demonstrate this by finding  $v_i$  such that the weighting function in Equation (2.22) is given by

$$W(\bar{u}) = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-u_i^2 / u_i^{02}} \quad . \quad (2.26)$$

Assuming that  $f$  is a polynomial in the  $u$ 's of order  $p-1$ , and using the same argument as those in Appendix C, one can show that

$$\begin{aligned} A_L &\equiv \frac{1}{(2\pi)} \int_0^{2\pi} ds \sin \omega_L s f(u_1(s), \dots, u_n(s)) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^n} \int_{-u_1^0}^{u_1^0} du_1 \dots \int_{-u_n^0}^{u_n^0} du_n \frac{u_L}{u_L^0} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{ds_i}{du_i} \omega_i f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) \quad . \quad (2.27) \end{aligned}$$

Setting

$$\frac{ds_i}{du_i} = \frac{1}{u_i^0} \frac{ds_i}{dv_i} \propto \frac{1}{v_i} e^{-u_i^2 / u_i^{02}} \quad (2.28)$$

one may solve for  $v_i(s_i)$ . A solution for this equation for  $-1 \leq v_i \leq 1$  is

$$v_i(b_i) = \text{erf}^{-1} \left( \frac{2 \text{erf}(1)}{\pi} \sin^{-1} b_i \right), \quad b_i > 0, \quad v_i(-b_i) = -v_i(b_i) \quad (2.29)$$

where

$$b_i = \sin \omega_i s_i \quad (2.30)$$

and

$$-\pi/2 \leq \sin^{-1} b_i \leq \pi/2.$$

This gives for the right side of Equation (2.27)

$$\frac{1}{(2\text{erf}(1))^n} \int_{-u_1^0}^{u_1^0} du_1 \dots \int_{-u_n^0}^{u_n^0} du_n \frac{u_L}{u_L^0} \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\left(\frac{u_i}{u_i^0}\right)^2} \frac{1}{u_i^0} f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n). \quad (2.31)$$

One can integrate this by parts over  $u_L$  to obtain an average of  $\partial f / \partial u_L$  with a Gaussian weight function remaining over all  $u$ 's except  $u_L$ , and a weight function in the  $u_L$  dimension proportional to

$$H(u_L) = \int_{-\infty}^{u_L^0} du_L' u_L' e^{-(u_L' / u_L^0)^2} - \int_{-\infty}^{u_L} du_L' u_L' e^{-(u_L' / u_L^0)^2} \quad (2.32)$$

which is also peaked near  $u_L = 0$ .

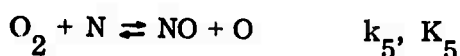
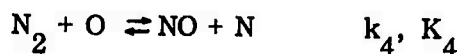
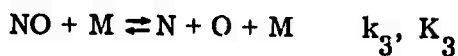
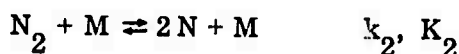
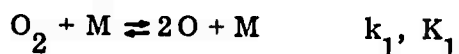
Some calculations reported in the next section used this formulation of the Fourier method, but the results do not differ significantly from those obtained with the original formulation.

## 2.5 APPLICATIONS OF THE FOURIER METHOD

The Fourier method has been applied to various simulation functions (analytical functions) and to results calculated from models of two chemical systems. The results for the chemical systems will be presented in this section.

### 2.5.1 The Nitrogen-Oxygen (N-O) System

The N-O system is modeled by the following set of chemical reactions, rate constants and equilibrium constants:



and is characterized by the following rate equations,

$$\frac{dc_1}{dt} = -k_1 \left( c_1 M - \frac{1}{K_1} c_2^2 M \right) - k_5 \left( c_1 c_4 - \frac{1}{K_5} c_5 c_2 \right),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dc_2}{dt} = & 2k_1 \left( c_1 M - \frac{1}{K_1} c_2^2 M \right) + k_5 \left( c_1 c_4 - \frac{1}{K_5} c_5 c_2 \right) \\ & + k_3 \left( c_5 M - \frac{1}{K_3} c_2 c_4 M \right) - k_4 \left( c_3 c_2 - \frac{1}{K_4} c_5 c_4 \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dc_3}{dt} = -k_2 \left( c_3 M - \frac{1}{K_2} c_4^2 M \right) - k_4 \left( c_3 c_2 - \frac{1}{K_4} c_5 c_4 \right),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dc_4}{dt} = & 2k_2 \left( c_3 M - \frac{1}{K_2} c_4^2 M \right) + k_3 \left( c_5 M - \frac{1}{K_3} c_2 c_4 M \right) \\ & + k_4 \left( c_3 c_2 - \frac{K_5}{K_4} c_4 \right) - k_5 \left( c_1 c_4 - \frac{1}{K_5} c_5 c_2 \right), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dc_5}{dt} = & -k_3 \left( c_5 M - \frac{1}{K_3} c_4 c_2 M \right) + k_4 \left( c_3 c_2 - \frac{1}{K_4} c_5 c_4 \right) \\ & + k_5 \left( c_1 c_4 - \frac{1}{K_5} c_5 c_2 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

where

$$c_1 = [O_2]$$

$$c_2 = [O]$$

$$c_3 = [N_2]$$

$$c_4 = [N]$$

$$c_5 = [NO]$$

and

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^5 c_i \quad (2.34)$$

The assumption of equal reaction rates with each species acting as a third body, M, for reactions 1, 2, and 3 simplifies the system.  $k_i$  are the rate constants for the reaction in the forward direction as written, and  $K_i$  are the equilibrium constants. The rate constants for the reverse reactions are related to  $k_i$  by the relation



$$K_i = \frac{k_i}{k_{i \text{ reverse}}} \quad (2.35)$$

The system was assumed to react at constant temperature, 6000°K, and constant density beginning at  $t = 0$  with only  $N_2$  and  $O_2$  present. The reaction rates and equilibrium constants used and the initial conditions assumed are shown in Table 2.4. A plot of the time evolution of this system is shown in Figure 2.1.

This chemical system is interesting because it has in addition to the monotonic concentrations, the NO concentration which passes through a maximum near  $t = 10^{-4}$  sec.

The rate constants in Table 2.4 represent experimentally obtained rate coefficients, and while the uncertainties of these particular rate constants are not large, it was arbitrarily assumed that the experimental uncertainties for all the coefficients was  $\pm 2$  orders of magnitude. In the sensitivity analysis, values of the rate coefficients were investigated lying in the range

$$k_i = k_i^0 e^{\pm 4.606}, \quad i = 1, 5 \quad (2.36)$$

Throughout the course of the study, various sets of frequencies were used, some were not the minimal set described earlier, but all sets had the property that no interferences of the order less than 5 coincide with a fundamental. The most common set of frequencies used was

$$(2, 42, 62, 74, 90)$$

for which the lowest number of evenly spaced points which avoids aliasing of fourth order interferences is 191.

Table 2.4

PARAMETERS AND INITIAL CONDITIONS  
FOR CALCULATIONS OF THE N-O SYSTEM

---

Initial Conditions

$$[N_2] = 8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ moles/cc}$$

$$[O_2] = 2 \times 10^{-8} \quad "$$

Nominal Values of the Rate Coefficients

$$k_1^0 = 8.5 \times 10^{10} \text{ (moles/cc)}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$k_2^0 = 3.0 \times 10^7 \quad "$$

$$k_3^0 = 8.0 \times 10^9 \quad "$$

$$k_4^0 = 9.0 \times 10^{10} \quad "$$

$$k_5^0 = 8.0 \times 10^{11} \quad "$$

Equilibrium Constants

$$K_1 = 7.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (moles/cc)}$$

$$K_2 = 1.0 \times 10^{-7} \quad "$$

$$K_3 = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \quad "$$

$$K_4 = 9.0 \times 10^{-3} \quad -$$

$$K_5 = 5.9 \times 10^1 \quad -$$


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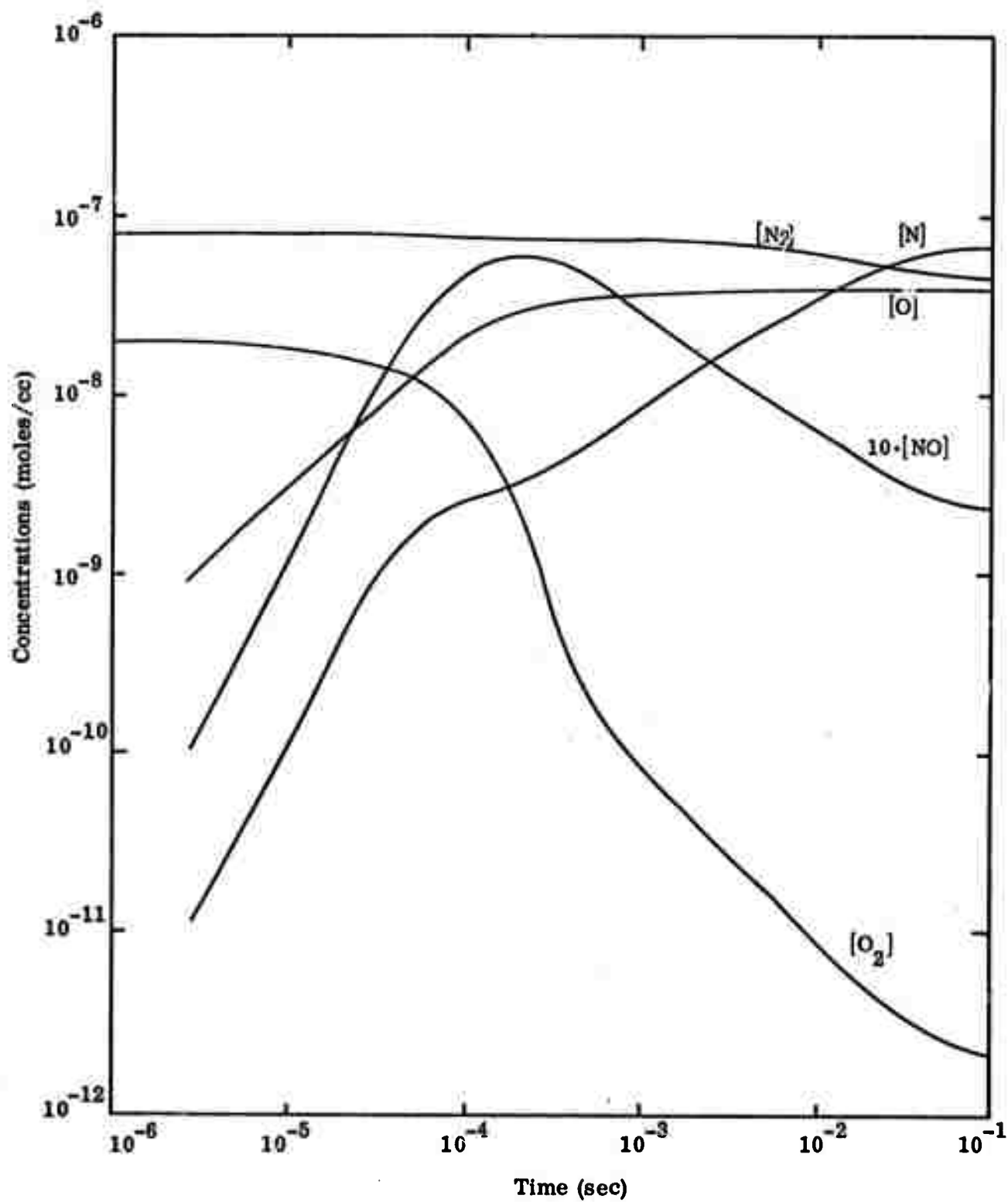


Figure 2.1 — Time evolution of the N-O system for the conditions in Table 2.4.

Parameterizing the rate constant parameters,  $u$  by the relation

$$u_i = 4.606 \sin \omega_i s \quad (2.37)$$

and varying  $s$  in the range  $0 \leq s \leq 2\pi$ , the concentrations of the various species were calculated by integrating the rate Equations (2.2) to a particular time for each of the 191  $s$  values. The 191 values of a concentration at a particular time defines an output function which may be Fourier analyzed by computing the Fourier coefficients corresponding to the input frequencies according to formula

$$A_L = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \sin \frac{2\pi \ell L}{N} f\left(\frac{2\pi \ell}{N}\right), \quad N = 191 \quad (2.38)$$

where  $f\left(\frac{2\pi \ell}{N}\right)$  is the output function evaluated at  $s = \frac{2\pi \ell}{N}$ . The relative magnitudes of these amplitudes is taken to be a measure of the relative sensitivity of the uncertainty in the output function to uncertainty in the corresponding rate coefficients.

As an example of  $f(s)$ , Figure 2.2 shows a plot of the NO concentration as a function of  $s$  at  $t = 10^{-4}$  sec. The curve consists of points corresponding to the NO concentration for each discrete value of  $s$ , which have been connected by straight lines. The Fourier coefficients of this function are presented in Section 2.5.1.2.

#### 2.5.1.1 Interpretation of Results for the N-O System at $10^{-6}$ sec

The N-O system was run to a time of  $10^{-6}$  sec and the Fourier analysis done on the concentrations at that time. The results for this calculation are presented in Table 2.5.

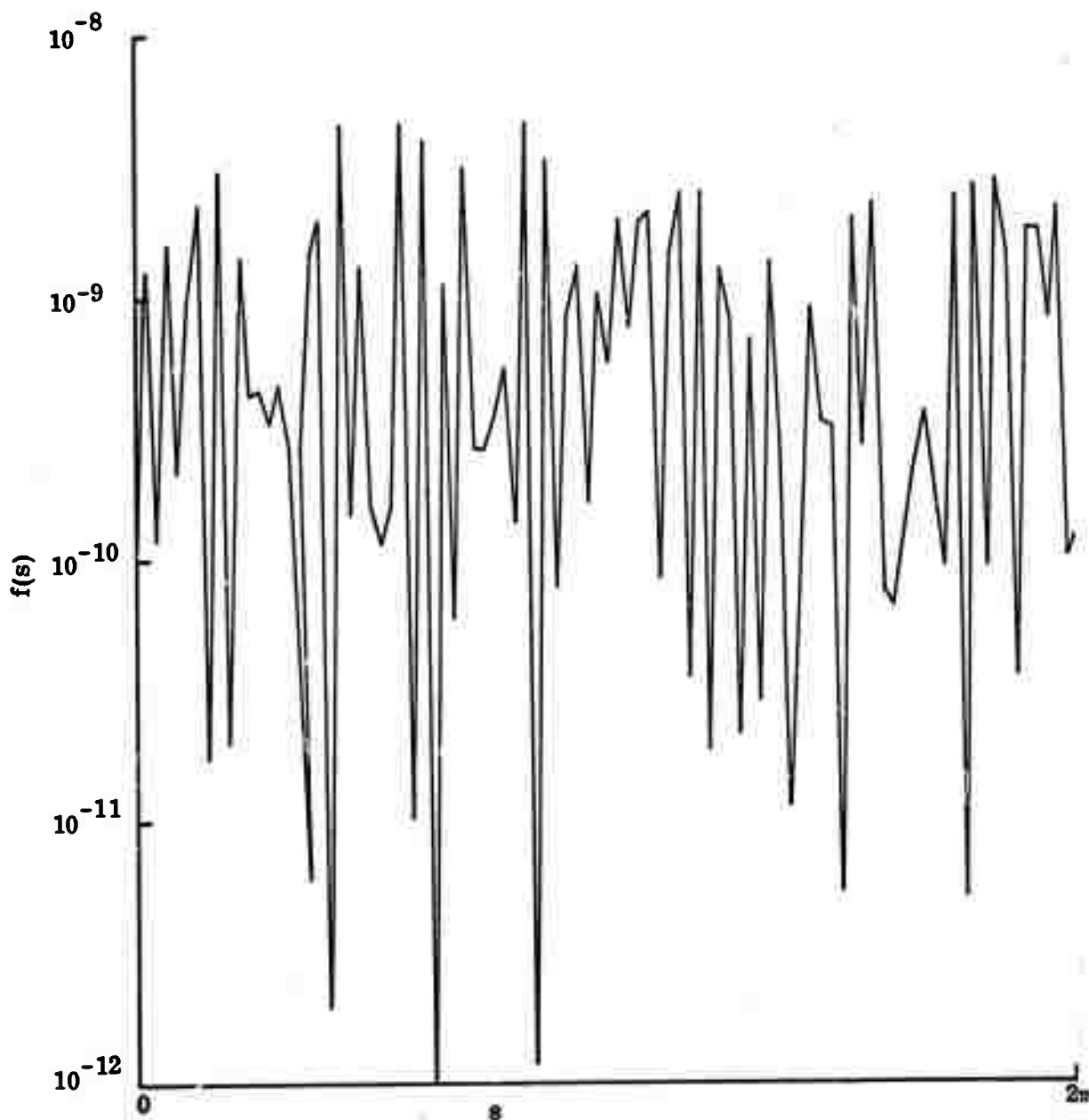


Figure 2.2 – Example of an output function as a function of  $s$ . In this case the output function is defined to be the concentration of NO at  $t = 10(-4)$  sec for the particular set of initial conditions in Table 2.4.

Table 2.5

SENSITIVITY OF THE CONCENTRATIONS AT  $10^{-6}$  SEC  
TO UNCERTAINTIES IN THE RATE COEFFICIENTS FOR  
THE N-O SYSTEM

Input Frequency	Corresponding Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity
$[O_2] \times 10^9$		
2	$k_1$	-4.47
90	$k_5$	-0.0244
74	$k_4$	-0.0227
42	$k_2$	-0.00047
62	$k_3$	-0.00039
----- $[O] \times 10^9$ -----		
2	$k_1$	8.53
74	$k_4$	-0.36
90	$k_5$	0.018
62	$k_3$	-0.029
42	$k_2$	0.0027
----- $[N_2] \times 10^9$ -----		
2	$k_1$	-0.389
74	$k_4$	-0.386
42	$k_2$	-0.0087
62	$k_3$	-0.0039
90	$k_5$	-0.00103
----- $[N] \times 10^9$ -----		
2	$k_1$	0.367
74	$k_4$	0.362
90	$k_5$	-0.028
62	$k_3$	-0.013
42	$k_2$	-0.011
----- $[NO] \times 10^{10}$ -----		
2	$k_1$	0.412
74	$k_4$	0.410
90	$k_5$	0.031
42	$k_2$	-0.0066
62	$k_3$	-0.0048

In the column labeled "Sensitivity" are listed the Fourier amplitudes corresponding to the rate coefficient shown. At this early time (see Figure 2.1) only reaction 1 is important in the production of O from  $O_2$  and, thus, only the uncertainty in  $k_1$  contributes to these concentrations. The sign of the amplitude may be understood by Equation (2.24) showing the amplitude proportional to an average of  $\partial f / \partial u$ . Thus, the negative sign in the sensitivity of  $O_2$  to  $k_1$  means that  $\partial f / \partial k_1$  is negative, as one would expect. Since  $k_2$  is small, the primary source of N is through reaction 4. One can show that at these early times, when the  $O_2$  and  $N_2$  are not substantially depleted, the concentrations of NO and N will be proportional to the product  $k_1 k_4$ . The Fourier coefficients of these species are therefore (approximately) symmetric in  $k_1, k_4$ .

It is desirable that the results are independent of the input frequencies. Small amplitudes can depend strongly on the input frequency set through interferences obscuring the fundamentals. This provides a means for estimating the effects of interferences and aliases; for example, one can reassign the frequencies to the various rate constants and repeat the analysis. If the relative sensitivity is invariant under permutations, the result is reliable. If it varies with permutation, the result is questionable. For the amplitudes in Table 2.5 only the smallest amplitudes will be unreliable. A comparison of results under permutation is presented below for another set of output functions.

#### 2.5.1.2 Interpretation of Results for the N-O System at $10^{-4}$ sec

The N-O system with the same initial conditions and rate constant specification was run to  $t = 10^{-4}$  sec, and the various concentrations were analyzed with the results shown in Table 2.6.

Since the time is later, more reactions (and more uncertainties) have come into play. If we arbitrarily choose a factor of 10 to separate the "important" from the "unimportant" rate uncertainties,  $[O_2]$  and  $[O]$  are sensitive only to

Table 2.6

SENSITIVITY OF THE CONCENTRATION AT  $10^{-4}$  SEC  
TO UNCERTAINTIES IN THE RATE COEFFICIENTS  
FOR THE N-O SYSTEM

Input Frequency	Corresponding Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity
----- $[O_2] \times 10^8$ -----		
2	$k_1$	-1.1
90	$k_5$	-0.147
74	$k_4$	-0.087
62	$k_3$	-0.069
42	$k_2$	-0.044
----- $[O] \times 10^8$ -----		
2	$k_1$	2.17
62	$k_3$	0.228
90	$k_5$	0.164
42	$k_2$	0.078
74	$k_4$	-0.00146
----- $[N_2] \times 10^9$ -----		
74	$k_4$	-2.6
2	$k_1$	-2.3
62	$k_3$	-1.0
90	$k_5$	-0.70
42	$k_2$	-0.55
----- $[N] \times 10^9$ -----		
2	$k_1$	4.3
74	$k_4$	3.3
62	$k_3$	3.0
42	$k_2$	0.98
90	$k_5$	0.125
----- $[NO] \times 10^9$ -----		
74	$k_4$	1.77
90	$k_5$	1.29
62	$k_3$	-0.91
2	$k_1$	0.23
42	$k_2$	0.124



the uncertainty in  $k_1$ . On the other hand, the other concentrations depend on several uncertainties. It is interesting that the most direct route to produce N, reaction 2, is relatively unimportant in determining any concentration.

In order to investigate possible errors in these results due to frequency interference effects, an additional analysis was made changing the frequencies assigned to the various rate coefficients. A cyclic permutation of the frequencies was used which caused different interferences of order  $\geq 5$  to coincide with the fundamentals. The problem for which this comparison was made was the same as that described in Table 2.4 except that one equilibrium constant,  $K_5$ , was changed to  $5.9 \times 10^{-1}$  which changed the reverse reaction rate,  $k_5$ . The results of this calculation are presented in column II of Table 2.7. The problem with modified  $K_5$  was also run using the same frequency set as that used in Table 2.6 and the results presented in the column labeled "I" so that direct comparison is possible. Only the small amplitudes are changed significantly. In no case did the sign change due to permutation although the rank based on the magnitude of the various small amplitudes changes occasionally.

In Section 2.4 an alternative parameterization of  $k_1$  in terms of the parameters was discussed which resulted in a Gaussian weight function for the multi-dimensional integral. In columns III and IV the results for the same N-O system with modified  $K_5$  are presented, with the original frequency set used in column III and the permuted set used in column IV. Again, significant differences due to permutation occur only in the relatively small coefficients. It is interesting to compare the results in columns I and III due to the different sampling of points. The formulation in column I favors points near the extremes of the uncertainty ranges. The general tendency for the magnitude of the amplitudes to be slightly smaller in column III indicates that  $\partial f / \partial u$  tends to increase with  $u$  in general. There do not seem to be significant differences in the results between parameterizations of  $k_1$ . Moreover, the more complex parameterization will, in

Table 2.7

EFFECTS OF PERMUTATION OF FREQUENCIES AND ALTERNATE  
WEIGHT FUNCTIONS ON SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS,  
CONCENTRATIONS AT  $10^{-4}$  SEC FOR THE N-O SYSTEM

Rate Coefficient	I	II	III	IV
----- $[\text{O}_2] \times 10^6$ -----				
$k_1$	-1.14	-1.14	-1.05	-1.04
$k_5$	-0.040	-0.038	-0.0098	-0.036
$k_3$	-0.046	-0.045	-0.0248	-0.047
$k_2$	-0.028	-0.038	-0.0097	-0.016
$k_4$	-0.018	-0.020	-0.0030	-0.030
----- $[\text{O}] \times 10^8$ -----				
$k_1$	2.27	2.28	2.08	2.05
$k_3$	0.124	0.127	0.074	0.111
$k_5$	0.105	0.097	0.031	0.075
$k_2$	0.045	0.069	0.015	0.034
$k_4$	-0.041	-0.039	-0.074	-0.152
----- $[\text{N}_2] \times 10^8$ -----				
$k_1$	-0.569	-0.555	-0.428	-0.303
$k_4$	-0.465	-0.456	-0.292	-0.246
$k_5$	-0.290	-0.309	-0.159	-0.146
$k_3$	-0.069	-0.066	-0.035	-0.058
$k_2$	-0.045	-0.078	-0.023	-0.022
----- $[\text{N}] \times 10^8$ -----				
$k_1$	1.12	1.09	0.836	0.693
$k_4$	0.853	0.838	0.504	0.400
$k_5$	0.597	0.640	0.360	0.331
$k_3$	0.171	0.169	0.093	0.137
$k_2$	0.079	0.149	0.012	0.046
----- $[\text{NO}] \times 10^{10}$ -----				
$k_4$	7.71	7.76	7.99	9.28
$k_3$	-3.31	-3.70	2.40	2.37
$k_5$	-1.71	-2.17	4.07	3.96
$k_1$	1.40	1.58	2.06	3.33
$k_2$	1.06	0.721	0.395	0.316

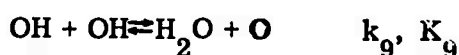
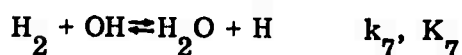
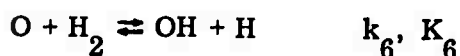
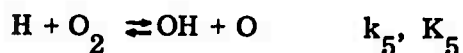
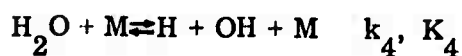
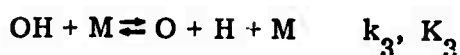
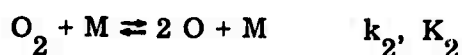
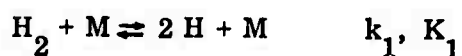
- I Sensitivity with frequency set (2, 42, 62, 74, 90) corresponding to  $(k_1, \dots, k_5)$ .  
 II Sensitivity with permuted frequencies (62, 74, 90, 2, 42) corresponding to  $(k_1, \dots, k_5)$ .  
 III Sensitivity using alternate form, Equations (2.25, and 2.29) with frequency set (2, 42, 62, 74, 90).  
 IV Sensitivity using alternate form, Equations (2.25 and 2.29) with frequency set (62, 74, 90, 2, 42).

general, increase the interferences (although it did not seem to for the N-O system). We, therefore, tend to favor the simple prescription.

The results of the sensitivity analysis for this simple N-O system agree with intuition in the cases where intuition gives an answer. Furthermore, ambiguity in the results due to frequency interferences is small for determining large sensitivity vs small sensitivity, but the small sensitivities may be quantitatively ambiguous.

### 2.5.2 The Hydrogen-Oxygen System

The H-O system is modeled by the following set of chemical reactions:



The system was assumed to react at constant temperature, 2000°, and constant density beginning with only  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  present. The reaction rates and equilibrium constants used and the initial conditions assumed are shown in Table 2.8. Both forward and backward reactions were considered so that there are 9 independent uncertainties.

The early and late-time concentrations are shown in Figures 2.3 and 2.4. In Figure 2.3 the concentrations of  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  which are essentially unchanged from the initial conditions have not been shown. At early times the only reactions which contribute are numbers 1, 2, and 8 since no atomic O or H or OH is initially present. As more O, H, and OH become available, reactions 5, 6, and 7 become dominant which results in the sharp decrease in oxygen and hydrogen molecules and the correspondingly sharp increase of other species at  $t \sim 10^{-3}$  sec. Finally, the slower reactions equilibrate slowly until a relative steady state is reached at about  $t = 10^{-3}$  sec. This steady state is not true equilibrium in the sense that reactions 2, 5, and 8 are still quite far from equilibrium, but further relaxation to equilibrium is extremely slow.

Table 2.8

PARAMETERS AND INITIAL CONDITIONS FOR  
CALCULATIONS OF THE H-O SYSTEM

---

Initial Conditions:

$$[\text{H}_2] = 8.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ moles/cc}$$

$$[\text{O}_2] = 4.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ moles/cc}$$

Nominal Values of the Rate Coefficients:

$$k_1^0 = 5.78 \times 10^4 \text{ (moles/cc)}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1} \quad k_6^0 = 4.0 \times 10^{13} \text{ (moles/cc)}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$k_2^0 = 4.47 \times 10^3 \quad " \quad k_7^0 = 1.51 \times 10^{13} \quad "$$

$$k_3^0 = 1.03 \times 10^5 \quad " \quad k_8^0 = 2.20 \times 10^6 \quad "$$

$$k_4^0 = 6.79 \times 10^5 \quad " \quad k_9^0 = 1.6 \times 10^{14} \quad "$$

$$k_5^0 = 1.23 \times 10^{12} \quad "$$

Equilibrium Constants:

$$K_1 = 1.59 \times 10^{-11} \text{ moles/cc} \quad K_6 = 1.4 \quad -$$

$$K_2 = 2.69 \times 10^{-12} \quad " \quad K_7 = 9.76 \quad -$$

$$K_3 = 1.14 \times 10^{-11} \quad " \quad K_8 = 2.02 \quad -$$

$$K_4 = 1.63 \times 10^{-12} \quad " \quad K_9 = 6.76 \quad -$$

$$K_5 = 2.37 \times 10^{-1} \quad -$$


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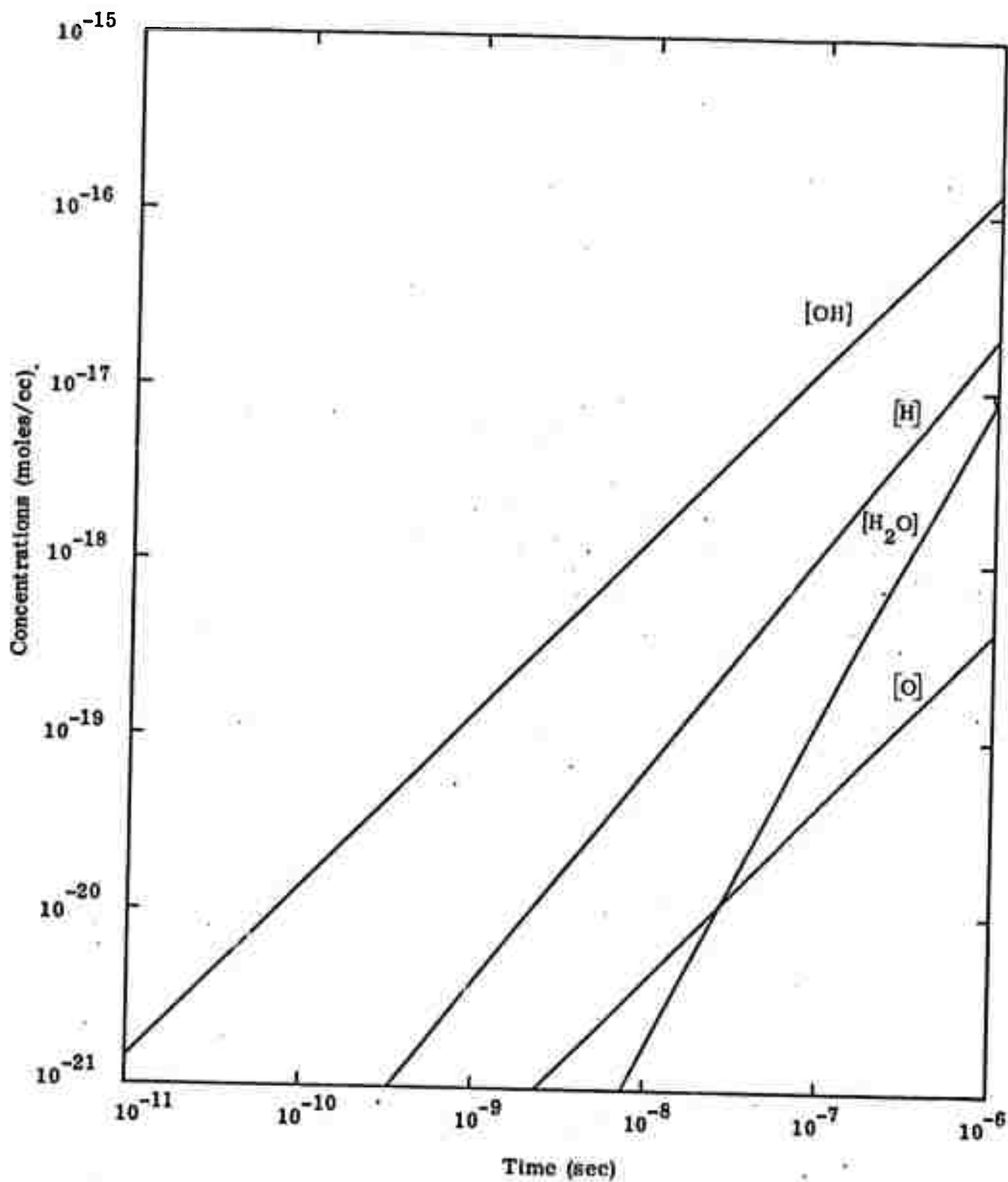


Figure 2.3 — Time evolution of the H-O system for the conditions in Table 2.8,  $t = 10^{-11}$  -  $10^{-6}$  sec.

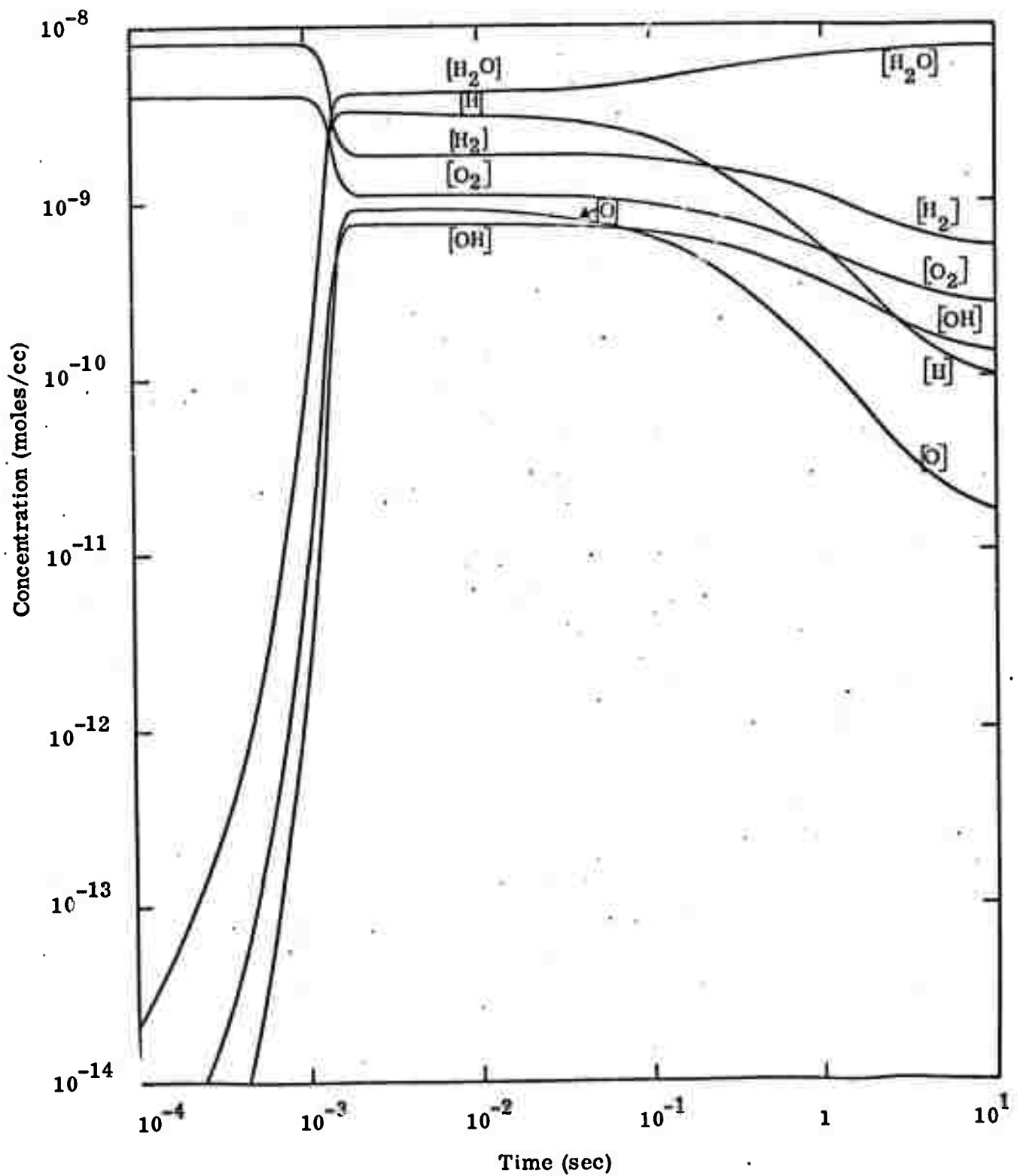


Figure 2.4 — Time evolution of the H-O system for the conditions in Table 2.8,  $t = 10^{-4} - 10$  seconds.

The rate constants shown in Table 2.8 are taken to be the "best guess" values and one order of magnitude uncertainty in each rate constant was assumed in order to demonstrate the technique. The frequencies for the analysis were taken to be the minimal set,

$$\bar{\omega} = (19, 59, 91, 113, 133, 143, 149, 157, 161) \text{ .}$$

630 evenly spaced points were taken on the  $s$  interval

$$0 < s \leq 2\pi$$

to evaluate the Fourier amplitudes. The analysis was run on the concentrations at one early time and one late time.

#### 2.5.2.1 Interpretation of Results for the H-O System at $10^{-8}$ sec

The results for the sensitivity analysis for  $t = 10^{-8}$  sec are shown in Table 2.9. At this very early time, the  $H_2$  and  $O_2$  concentrations have not varied from their initial values so that the sensitivity analysis showed their Fourier amplitudes to be very small, due only to roundoff in the analysis. The relative sensitivities of the other species, however, reflect the importance of the various reactions and the uncertainties in their rate constants. In the case of H, reaction 1 is the prime contributor and, therefore, its rate coefficient is crucial in determining the accuracy of  $[H]$ .  $k_8$  and  $k_7$  are also important since reactions 7 and 8 together produce H. The sensitivities of the two reactions are the same since, at early times these two reactions yield

$$[H] \propto k_7 k_8 \text{ ,}$$

and since the uncertainties  $u_7^0 = u_8^0$ , the results are symmetric in  $k_7$  and  $k_8$ . This is also the most efficient path to produce  $H_2O$  by at early times, and since there is a one to one correspondence between  $[H]$  and  $[H_2O]$ , the sensitivity of these concentrations to  $k_7$  and  $k_8$  are the same.

This system has not been run with a different frequency set to deduce the errors from interferences. It is estimated, however, for this set of results



Table 2.9

SENSITIVITY OF THE CONCENTRATIONS AT  $10^{-8}$  SEC  
TO UNCERTAINTIES IN THE RATE COEFFICIENTS  
FOR THE H-O SYSTEM

Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity	Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity
----- $[\text{H}_2]$ -----		----- $[\text{O}_2]$ -----	
Insensitive to uncertainties in any rate constant.		Insensitive to uncertainties in any rate constant.	
----- $[\text{H}] \times 10^{11}$ -----		----- $[\text{O}] \times 10^{20}$ -----	
$k_1$	4.67	$k_2$	1.79
$k_8$	0.202	$k_6$	-0.016
$k_7$	0.202	$k_1$	0.0065
$k_5$	0.010	$k_5$	0.0065
$k_6$	0.0023	$k_3$	$2.25 \times 10^{-5}$
$k_2$	0.00165	$k_4$	$-1.95 \times 10^{-5}$
$k_4$	$8.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$k_9$	$7.87 \times 10^{-6}$
$k_9$	$4.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$k_8$	$1.20 \times 10^{-6}$
$k_3$	$-3.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$k_7$	$-8.46 \times 10^{-7}$
----- $[\text{OH}] \times 10^{18}$ -----		----- $[\text{H}_2\text{O}] \times 10^{20}$ -----	
$k_8$	5.9	$k_8$	2.03
$k_7$	-0.00203	$k_7$	2.03
$k_9$	$1.76 \times 10^{-3}$	$k_5$	0.121
$k_5$	$1.14 \times 10^{-3}$	$k_6$	0.0066
$k_2$	$1.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$k_4$	$8.35 \times 10^{-4}$
$k_6$	$9.73 \times 10^{-5}$	$k_1$	$-6.34 \times 10^{-4}$
$k_1$	$7.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$k_9$	$4.22 \times 10^{-4}$
$k_4$	$-7.43 \times 10^{-6}$	$k_3$	$-2.81 \times 10^{-4}$
$k_3$	$3.13 \times 10^{-6}$	$k_2$	$1.33 \times 10^{-4}$

that no credence should be given sensitivities smaller than 1 percent of the maximum for that species.

#### 2.5.2.2 Interpretation of Results for the H-O System at $10^{-3}$ sec

At  $t = 10^{-3}$  sec the system is about to make dramatic changes. Therefore, as the rate constants are shifted, one would expect the concentrations to change dramatically at  $t = 10^{-3}$  sec. This is indeed the case, and one finds the various sensitivity results listed in Table 2.10. As predicted, reactions 5, 6, and 7 seem to be most important overall, with the early-time reactions 1, 2, and 8 of considerably less importance. It is clear that the controlling reactions affect all the species about equally which is to be expected, since all species appear in those reactions.

In running the H-O system to late times, difficulties were encountered with the equation integration package. The timesteps became excessively short, and often the input error criterion had to be modified in order to obtain a timely solution. The difficulties pointed up the need to investigate more closely methods for integrating the kinetic equations more economically.

### 2.6 COMPARISON OF THE FOURIER METHOD WITH OTHER METHODS FOR EVALUATING THE MULTIPLE INTEGRALS

It is possible to view the Fourier method as a means for approximately evaluating the multiple integral of an output function over  $u$  space. If incommensurate frequencies could be used, the evaluation would be exact. By using integer frequencies, the number of points required to determine the Fourier amplitude is finite, but an error is introduced because of the frequency interferences.

One way of obtaining the Fourier amplitudes without the troublesome interferences would be to evaluate the  $n$ -dimensional integral to which the amplitudes

Table 2.10

SENSITIVITY OF THE CONCENTRATIONS AT  $10^{-3}$  SEC  
TO UNCERTAINTIES IN THE RATE COEFFICIENTS  
FOR THE H-O SYSTEM

Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity	Rate Coefficient	Sensitivity
----- $[H_2] \times 10^9$ -----		----- $[H] \times 10^9$ -----	
$k_5$	-3.71	$k_5$	1.92
$k_7$	-0.346	$k_7$	1.92
$k_6$	-0.313	$k_6$	0.122
$k_8$	-0.172	$k_8$	0.102
$k_2$	-0.108	$k_2$	0.061
$k_4$	-0.101	$k_9$	0.0466
$k_9$	-0.0905	$k_4$	0.0439
$k_1$	-0.0491	$k_1$	0.0176
$k_3$	0.0119	$k_3$	-0.00318
----- $[O_2] \times 10^9$ -----		----- $[O] \times 10^{10}$ -----	
$k_5$	-1.77	$k_5$	5.77
$k_7$	-0.153	$k_7$	0.420
$k_6$	-0.089	$k_1$	0.164
$k_8$	-0.070	$k_6$	0.162
$k_2$	-0.047	$k_9$	0.145
$k_4$	-0.047	$k_2$	0.116
$k_9$	-0.044	$k_8$	0.115
$k_1$	-0.031	$k_4$	0.10
$k_3$	0.0091	$k_3$	-0.061
----- $[OH] \times 10^{10}$ -----		----- $[H_2O] \times 10^9$ -----	
$k_5$	4.63	$k_5$	2.52
$k_7$	0.281	$k_7$	0.237
$k_6$	0.196	$k_6$	0.142
$k_8$	0.135	$k_8$	0.114
$k_9$	0.116	$k_4$	0.114
$k_2$	0.115	$k_2$	0.0718
$k_4$	0.0964	$k_9$	0.0614
$k_1$	0.0876	$k_1$	0.0358
$k_3$	-0.0359	$k_3$	-0.00851

correspond (see Equation 2.22) by an alternate method. One method which was tried was based on simple Monte Carlo integration. In this section we compare the Fourier method and the corresponding Monte Carlo calculations. Another equivalent form was investigated, namely integral  $I_3$  in Appendix C which is an  $n$ -dimensional  $s$  integration equal to the  $u$  integral transformed by the relations

$$u_i = \sin \omega_i s \quad , \quad i = 1, n \quad (2.39)$$

when the frequencies  $\omega_i$  are those associated with the Fourier method. The function used in these comparisons was the "simulation function," Equation (3.3) with

$$C_1(\infty) = 0.1 \quad , \quad C_1(0) = 1$$

$$k_i = i \quad , \quad u_i^0 = 0.5 \quad , \quad i = 1, 6$$

$$t = 1.5 \quad .$$

The results for the Fourier sine amplitudes of the input frequencies are denoted  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, 6$ . The frequencies were

$$(1, 21, 31, 37, 45, 49) \quad ,$$

201 points were used on the interval  $(0, 2\pi)$  (no aliases interference of order less than 5). The amplitudes were run for 5 different permutations of frequencies, each of which defined a different path through the space. The results are shown in Table 2.11. The quantity in the column labeled " $\bar{A}$ " is the average amplitude, and the "Maximum Error" is

$$\frac{|A - \bar{A}|_{\text{maximum}}}{\bar{A}}$$

Table 2.11

FOURIER AMPLITUDES FOR THE SIMULATION FUNCTION FOR FIVE  
CYCLICAL PERMUTATIONS OF THE FREQUENCY SET  
Fourier Analysis

Permutation	1	2	3	4	5	6	Maximum Error
$A_1 \times 10^3$	-5.45	-5.51	-5.65	-5.75	5.92	5.65	4.8%
$A_2 \times 10^3$	2.67	2.80	2.72	2.70	2.93	2.76	6.2%
$A_3 \times 10^3$	-15.0	-14.7	-15.1	-15.3	-15.1	-15.04	2.3%
$A_4 \times 10^3$	7.02	7.0	7.12	6.94	7.11	7.04	1.4%
$A_5$	-3.36	-3.35	-3.35	-3.28	-3.46	-3.36	2.9%
$A_6$	-1.22	-1.26	-1.04	-1.20	-1.54	-1.25	23.2%

and serves as an estimate of the errors introduced by interferences.

The same one-dimensional integral was performed by Monte Carlo selecting the  $s$  points on the interval  $(0, 2\pi)$  at random, and calculating an approximate integral

$$I_L = \frac{1}{2\pi N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sin \omega_L s_i f[k_1(s_i), \dots, k_6(s_i)] .$$

The results for the amplitudes for successive samples of 200 points is shown in Table 2.12. These results show that the number of points required by this Monte Carlo procedure to give statistical accuracy is much greater than the number required in the Fourier analysis. Stated another way, for 200 points, the degree of accuracy of the Fourier method far surpasses that of the Monte Carlo integration.

Another method was to select six values of  $u$  at random for each function evaluation, and approximate the integral by

$$I = \frac{1}{N\pi^n} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f_1 u_i / u_i^0}{\sqrt{1 - (u_i / u_i^0)^2}} .$$

The results are shown in Table 2.13 for two successive sets of 200 points. While the error is much less in this case than in performing the one-dimensional Monte Carlo integral, the expected errors in a particular 200 point sample still greatly exceeds the errors in the Fourier sampling.

Monte Carlo was also used to evaluate the six-dimensional integral ( $I_3$  of Appendix C) in  $s$  space choosing six independent values of  $s$  to insert separately into the integral. The results were comparable to those in Table 2.13 and will not be given.

Table 2.12

FOURIER AMPLITUDES FOR THE SIMULATION FUNCTION  
FOR FIVE SETS OF 200 POINTS

Monte Carlo

Permutation	1	2	3	4	5	$\bar{A}$	Maximum Error
$A_1 \times 10^3$	-5.0	-12.9	-9.62	-4.45	-2.55	-6.91	115%
$A_2 \times 10^3$	1.1	-8.9	-1.61	-5.09	-6.39	-9.45	900%
$A_3 \times 10^3$	-12.3	-22.4	-19.2	-9.7	-8.0	-14.3	56%
$A_4 \times 10^3$	9.3	9.5	4.10	2.73	7.89	6.69	60%
$A_5 \times 10^3$	-7.9	2.2	7.05	1.94	-11.8	-3.04	300%
$A_6 \times 10^3$	-5.3	-2.42	-0.73	-3.55	3.14	-0.061	$\sim 10^2$

Table 2.13  
EVALUATION OF THE MULTIPLE INTEGRAL IN  $u$  SPACE IN  
EQUATION (2.22) FOR TWO SETS OF 200 POINTS

Permutation	1	2	$\bar{A}$	Error
$A_1 \times 10^3$	-7.9	-5.2	-6.6	21%
$A_2 \times 10^3$	1.8	-3.1	-0.65	5%
$A_3 \times 10^3$	-15.5	-21.8	-18.6	17%
$A_4 \times 10^3$	7.9	15.3	11.6	32%
$A_5 \times 10^3$	-9.9	-4.65	-7.3	36%
$A_6 \times 10^3$	-2.8	-4.53	-3.7	24%



### 3. OPTIMIZATION OF AN OUTPUT FUNCTION WITH RESPECT TO VARIATIONS OF THE RATE COEFFICIENTS

An alternate method for investigating the variation of the calculated concentrations with variations of the rate constants was investigated in which the concentrations were optimized over the multi-dimensional domain of rate constants bounded by the maximum and minimum estimated uncertainties.

Several methods for optimizing functions of many variables have been well automated and are operational on the S<sup>3</sup> computer. A code CUK was written which solves the problem by the method of steepest ascents. This method proceeds by choosing the direction of the maximum gradient from a given starting point, and following that line to an extremum. The process is repeated by taking this as a new starting point, constructing a new line, following it to its extremum, and so forth until a relative extremum in the many dimensional space is found. A refinement to this technique using a sophisticated algorithm due to Davidon<sup>(1)</sup> and modified by Fletcher and Powell<sup>(2)</sup> and Stewart<sup>(3)</sup> is embodied in subroutines DMIN1 and DMIN2. In the Davidon algorithm, the search for a minimum proceeds along a line which does not exactly coincide with the gradient. At each step a new direction is chosen dependent not only on the gradient at the new starting point, but also on the previous history of the search. For some functions this procedure is much more efficient than one using the gradient directly. DMIN1 requires a subroutine which computes the gradient, which is essentially that described below, see Section 3.1. DMIN2 estimates the gradient by repeated evaluation of the function. Neither DMIN1 nor DMIN2 are capable of handling constraints, and an extension of Davidon's method to include constraints has been programmed into a subroutine called KEELE.

### 3.1 FORMULATION OF THE GRADIENTS FOR THE METHOD OF STEEPEST ASCENTS

Both DMIN1 and CUK require the gradient of the functions to be extremized. For the special class of output functions consisting of species concentrations as a function of time, the gradient may be integrated along with the rate equations to obtain gradients at any particular time.

A set of rate equations may be formally written

$$\frac{dC_i}{dt} = \sum_{j=1}^n \epsilon_i^j k_j \prod_{\ell \in L(j)} C_\ell^{m(j,\ell)}, \quad (3.1)$$

where the index  $j$  label (separately) reactions in both forward and backward directions.  $L(j)$  is the set of indices corresponding to the reactant concentrations on the destruction side of the  $j$ th equation.  $\epsilon_i^j$  is the stoichiometric coefficient of  $C_i$  if  $C_i$  is produced in the  $j$ th reaction, is equal to -1 if  $C_i$  is destroyed by the reaction, and is equal to 0 if  $C_i$  does not appear in the equation or appears with the same stoichiometric coefficient on both sides of the reaction.  $m(j,\ell)$  is the stoichiometric coefficient of  $C_\ell$  on the destruction side of the equation.

The partial derivatives of the  $i$ th concentration with respect to the  $p$ th rate coefficient,  $C_{ip}$ , are found by differentiating Equation (3.1) with respect to  $k_p$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C_{ip}}{\partial t} &\equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial k_p} = \epsilon_i^p \prod_{\ell \in L(p)} (C_\ell)^{m(p,\ell)} \\ &+ \epsilon_i^{p^*} \frac{k_{p^*}}{k_p} \prod_{\ell \in L(p^*)} (C_\ell)^{m(p^*,\ell)} \\ &+ \sum_{j=1}^n \epsilon_i^j k_j \sum_{\ell'=1}^n m(p,\ell') (C_{\ell'})^{m(p,\ell')-1} C_{\ell',p} \prod_{\substack{\ell \in L(j) \\ \ell \neq \ell'}} C_\ell^{m(p,\ell)} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

$p^*$  labels the reverse of reaction  $p$ , and the other symbols are defined after Equation (3.1). The second term on the right side of Equation (3.2) makes use of the assumption that  $k_{p^*}/k_p$  is a constant over the uncertainty space (i.e., there is no uncertainty in the equilibrium constant). This set of equations for  $p = 1, n$  forms a linear set of equations in  $C_{ip}$  which can be integrated to obtain  $C_{i,p}(t)$  by the same Gear algorithm used for integrating the basic rate equations. A version of the KEM code has been written to accomplish this.

### 3.2 TEST CALCULATIONS

Two types of test calculations were used to investigate the various methods of optimization. First, the properties of a "simulation function" were investigated to determine the consistency and relative economy of the various methods. Secondly, the CUK method was applied to the nitrogen-oxygen (N-O) chemical system.

A "simulation function" was suggested by Professor Shuler<sup>(4)</sup> which is not the solution to any known set of kinetic equations, but which possesses some of the same characteristics as kinetic solutions. The function is given by

$$C_1(t) = \left\{ C_1(0) C_1(\infty) \left[ C_1(0) + \left\{ C_1(\infty) - C_1(0) \right\} e^{-k_1 t} \right]^{-1} + \frac{C_2^2(0) C_3^2(0) k_2 k_4 t^2 e^{-k_3 t}}{C_3^3(0) + C_2^3(0) k_3 k_2 t^2} + \frac{C_4(0) C_5^2(0) k_4^3 t^3 (1 - e^{-k_3 t}) e^{-\left(\frac{k_5}{k_1 + k_2} t\right)}}{C_4(0) C_5(0) + C_3^2(0) k_4 k_5 t^2 + C_2(0) C_4(0) k_1 k_6^2 t^3} \right\} \quad (3.3)$$

$C_1(t)$  is a function of six rate constants as well as the time. The following substitution was made,

$$k_i = k_i^0 e^{u_i} \quad (3.4)$$

so that the function is viewed as a function of  $u_i$  in the range

$$-u_i^0 \leq u_i \leq u_i^0, \quad i = 1, 6. \quad (3.5)$$

The time  $t$  was fixed at 1.5 so that only the functional dependence in  $u_i$  remains.

It is desirable to confine the domain of interest in  $u$  space to be contained within some  $n$ -dimensional box. Since some of the methods are designed for unconstrained systems, the above function was multiplied by an importance function to form the "associated simulation function"

$$P(u) = e^{-\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 / u_i^0{}^2} \times C_1(t) \quad (3.6)$$

where  $C_1(t)$  is given by Equation (3.3).

A comparison was made between the four methods: CUK, DMIN1, DMIN2, and KEELE. The output function is the associated simulation function described above, with the parameters shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1

PARAMETERS FOR THE OPTIMIZATION METHOD COMPARISON

Rate coefficient nominal values:	$k_i = 1, i = 1, 6$
Rate coefficient uncertainties:	$u_i^0 = 1, i = 1, 6$
$t = 1.5$	
$C_i(0) = 1, i = 1, 6$	
$C_1(\infty) = 0.1$	

The results using the four methods are shown in Table 3.2; all using comparable minimum step sizes of  $10^{-5}$ . These results show that, for this function of six variables, the methods appear to be consistent.

Two starting points were tried, and for this output function, the same end point is reached. For complicated output functions, one would not expect the same end point for different starting points.

The cost of these calculations are all proportional to both number of function evaluations and the number of derivative evaluations. The relative economy of the CUK method over the more sophisticated methods led us to concentrate our further investigation on this method. For functions more complicated than the above, it is anticipated that the other methods might well be superior.

The CUK code was used on the associated simulation function for different parameters, and with different variations in the method. In the sets of results shown below, the parameters entering the associated simulation function were those given in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3

PARAMETERS ENTERING THE ASSOCIATED SIMULATION  
FUNCTION IN TEST PROBLEMS BELOW

---

Rate coefficients nominal values:	$k_1^0 = 1, k_2^0 = 2, k_3^0 = 3,$ $k_4^0 = 4, k_5^0 = 5, k_6^0 = 6$
-----------------------------------	---

$C_i(0) = 1, i = 1, 6,$

$C_1(\infty) = 0.1$

$t = 1.5$

---

Table 3.2

RESULTS OF COMPARISON OF OPTIMIZATION METHODS  
FOR THE ASSOCIATED SIMULATION FUNCTION

Part A: Minimum from Starting Point

$$u_i^0 = 0.1, i = 1, 6$$

	CUK	DMIN1	DMIN2	KEELE
Function Value	0.356846	0.356843	0.356755	0.356866
$k_1$	1.11918	1.11994	1.12342	1.11939
$k_2$	0.914977	0.909268	0.914298	0.915617
$k_3$	1.45013	1.44725	1.41251	1.45692
$k_4$	0.679556	0.669602	0.670227	0.677832
$k_5$	1.31851	1.32621	1.31683	1.32631
$k_6$	1.12414	1.12282	1.12951	1.12901
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
$u_1$	0.112598	0.113276	0.116388	0.112784
$u_2$	-0.088856	-0.095116	-0.089598	-0.088157
$u_3$	0.371653	0.369666	0.345370	0.376326
$u_4$	-0.386315	-0.401071	-0.400138	-0.388856
$u_5$	0.276503	0.282322	0.275225	0.282404
$u_6$	0.117014	0.115841	0.121783	0.121343
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
No. of Function Calls	46	115+	184	49
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
No. of Gradient Calls	10	25		24

Table 3.2 (Contd)

Part B: Minimum from Starting Point

$$u_i^0 = -0.1, \quad i = 1, 6$$

	CUK	DMIN1	CMIN2	KEELE
Function Value	0.356845	0.356839	0.356755	0.356841
$k_1$	1.12464	1.13471	1.12343	1.12512
$k_2$	0.916838	0.924054	0.914097	0.919816
$k_3$	1.44718	1.44315	1.41256	1.45030
$k_4$	0.670045	0.669190	0.670133	0.673464
$k_5$	1.29726	1.30969	1.31687	1.31326
$k_6$	1.12978	1.14590	1.12904	1.13609
<hr/>				
$u_1$	0.117460	0.126376	0.116384	0.117894
$u_2$	-0.086825	-0.078985	-0.089819	-0.083581
$u_3$	0.369616	0.366831	0.345401	0.371773
$u_4$	0.400410	-0.401689	-0.400280	-0.395321
$u_5$	0.260252	0.269792	0.275258	0.272509
$u_6$	0.122021	0.136189	0.121367	0.127595
<hr/>				
No. of Function Calls	40	604	284	51
<hr/>				
No. of Gradient Calls	8	100		25

The results for both maximization and minimization of the associated simulation function are shown in Table 3.4. In Table 3.4, Part A, the maximum uncertainty in the rate coefficients is  $u_i^0 = 0.5$ , in Part B the uncertainty is assumed to be  $u_i^0 = 1$ .

### 3.2.1 Discussion of Table 3.4

Two methods were used to search for the maximum values of the function, constrained and unconstrained. In the constrained method, values of  $\bar{u}$  were not allowed to be outside the box,

$$u_i = \pm u_i^0 \quad . \quad (3.7)$$

When a gradient indicated that larger values of the function occurred outside this box, the direction of search was taken along the boundary. The results for the constrained and unconstrained maxima are therefore different for cases in which the maximum lies outside the box.

Each optimum of the function was evaluated for 2 or 3 starting points designated by the row labeled initial point. The columns labeled  $\pm 0.1$  denote the initial point

$$u_i/u_i^0 = \pm 0.1 \quad , \quad i = 1, 6 \quad . \quad (3.8)$$

The column denoted "corner" represents an initial point with coordinates given by the footnote asterisk,. The rows denoted  $k_i$  are the 6 values of the rate coefficients specifying the optimal values, and the  $u_i/u_i^0$  are then coordinates in  $u$  space normalized to a unit hypercube. In Part A, for example, the maximum unconstrained value of the associated simulation function is found at

$$u_5/u_5^0 = -1.4 \quad ,$$



Table 3.4

RESULTS OF OPTIMIZATION OF THE  
ASSOCIATED SIMULATION FUNCTION (ASF)

Part A: Rate Constant Uncertainties

$$u_i^0 = 0.5, i = 1, 6$$

MINIMUM				MAXIMUM				
Initial Point				Constrained			Unconstrained	
	0.1	-0.1	Corner*	0.1	-0.1	Corner**	0.1	Corner**
$k_1$	1.336502	1.336492	1.336565	0.042881	0.942877	0.942912	0.958178	0.986023
$k_2$	1.994806	1.994808	1.994806	2.038508	2.038510	2.038437	2.038124	2.54384
$k_3$	3.732751	3.732694	3.733078	1.819592	1.819592	1.819592	1.699020	2.84773
$k_4$	3.867460	3.867470	3.867411	4.777388	4.777428	4.777113	4.720191	5.715707
$k_5$	5.012121	5.012122	5.012120	4.998960	4.998960	4.999181	4.999231	2.47980
$k_6$	6.000996	6.000998	6.000997	5.999934	5.999934	5.999980	5.999951	4.99548
$u_1/u_1^0$	0.58	0.58	0.58	-0.12	-0.12	-0.12	-0.087	-0.028
$u_2/u_2^0$	-0.004	-0.007	-0.007	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.004	0.480
$u_3/u_3^0$	0.44	0.44	0.44	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.13	-0.1
$u_4/u_4^0$	-0.067	-0.069	-0.070	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.33	0.71
$u_5/u_5^0$	0.005	0.004	0.004	-0.0005	-0.0004	-0.0005	-0.003	-1.4
$u_6/u_6^0$	0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.00005	0.00002	-0.00004	0.00002	-0.367
Optimal Value of the ASM	0.130960	0.130968	0.130968	0.173318	0.173318	0.173318	0.174365	0.161049
No. of Function Evaluations	102	75	56	62	57	65	61	58
No. of Derivative Evaluations	30	20	16	16	14	16	15	14

\*Initial Point:  $\bar{u}/u_i^0 = (0.9, -0.8, 0.9, -0.9, 0.5, -0.5)$

\*\*Initial Point:  $\bar{u}/u_i^0 = (-0.5, 0.9, -0.7, 0.95, -0.95, -0.5)$

Table 3.4 (Contd)

## Part B: Rate Constant Uncertainties

$$u_i^0 = 1, i = 1, 6$$

MINIMUM			MAXIMUM			
Initial Point			Unconstrained		Constrained	
	0.1	Corner*	0.1	Corner**	0.1	Corner**
$k_1$	1.732245	1.732198	0.972464	0.891551	0.984629	0.885884
$k_2$	1.988241	1.988255	2.204691	3.334084	2.228403	2.814347
$k_3$	4.172935	4.172686	1.103638	2.881929	0.873297	2.93961
$k_4$	3.814059	3.814118	7.507727	10.87313	7.151887	14.42193
$k_5$	5.067699	5.067709	4.997028	1.839397	4.998524	1.49980
$k_6$	6.006362	6.006398	5.999815	3.641476	5.999911	3.740973
$u_1$	0.55	0.55	-0.028	-0.11	-0.015	-0.12
$u_2$	-0.005	-0.005	0.097	0.51	0.11	0.34
$u_3$	0.33	0.33	1.0	-0.04	-1.23	-0.02
$u_4$	-0.047	-0.047	0.63	1.0	0.58	1.28
$u_5$	0.014	0.014	-0.0006	-1.0	-0.0004	-1.2
$u_6$	0.002	0.002	-0.00002	-0.49	-0.0001	-0.47
Optimal Value of the ASM	0.126953	0.126953	0.352646	1.25303	0.376890	1.49207
No. of Function Evaluations $\Delta s=10^{-5}$ $\Delta s=10^{-2}$	56 32	69	51 36	45 26	73	39
No. of Derivative Evaluations $\Delta s=10^{-5}$ $\Delta s=10^{-2}$	15 9	19	12 10	10 7	30	8

\*Initial Point:  $\bar{u} = (0.95, -0.95, 0.95, -0.95, 0.7, -0.9)$ \*\*Initial Point:  $\bar{u} = (-0.5, 0.9, -0.7, 0.95, -0.95, -0.5)$

a point which is outside the uncertainty box, while in the constrained case,  $u_3$  lies on the surface of the box,  $u_3 = -u_3^0$ .

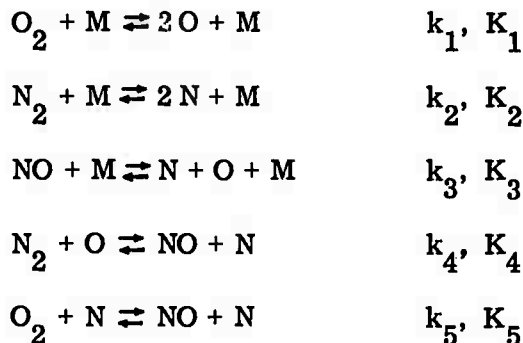
In Part A, with the estimated uncertainty  $u_i^0 = 0.5$ ,  $i = 1, 6$  the optimum function value is found to be independent of the initial point of the search for both the minimum and constrained maximum cases, but the unconstrained case finds different maxima. In Part B, even the maximum found in the constrained search is dependent on the initial point. This emphasizes the fact that such a search finds only a relative optimum which may be path dependent.

Finally, some words will be said about the numbers of function and derivative evaluations necessary to reach the optimum. These numbers depend strongly on the complexity of the output function. The method used by the CUK code is to select a direction based on a gradient calculation, and then search along that path with ever increasing distance until a functional optimum is found (or, if the search is constrained, until a boundary is reached). At this point, another gradient is calculated and the search proceeds along the new direction. The fact that the number of gradient calculations is small compared with the number of functional evaluations indicates that the gradient varies relatively slowly in the directions of search. Consistent with this observation are the last two rows in Table 3.4(B) which show that increasing the minimum step size from  $10^{-5}$  to  $10^{-2}$  (therefore increasing the average step size) reduces the number of function evaluations more than it reduces the number of gradient calculations.

An interesting feature of the associated simulation function is that the hyper-corner in which the maximum occurs is the reflection through the origin of the hyper-corner where the minimum is found (there are slight deviations from this principle in the case of  $u_6$  in Part A for both the maximum and minimum. In each case, however, the values of  $u_6$  are small so that difference of hyper-corner could be the effect of round-off error.)

### 3.3 RESULTS FOR THE N-O CHEMICAL SYSTEM

The N-O system investigated was the same as that for which test calculations were run using the Fourier method. The set of reactions chosen was:



The forward rate constants,  $k_i$ , and the equilibrium constants  $K_i$  were chosen as described in Table 2.4, with the exception that  $K_5$  was set equal to 0.59 instead of 59.0. The uncertainty in each rate constant was assumed to be a factor  $10^{\pm 2}$ , that is, the rate coefficients were assumed to lie in the range

$$k_i = k_i^0 e^{u_i} \quad (3.9)$$

$$-4.606 \leq u_i \leq 4.606 \quad .$$

The concentrations were initialized as shown in Table 3.5, and the system allowed to react isothermally at constant density until  $t = 10^{-4}$  sec when the various species reach concentrations which were considered as output functions depending on the various rate coefficient uncertainties. The CUK code was used which is strictly a steepest ascents calculation. The hyperplanes defining the boundaries according to Equation (3.10) were taken to absolute constraints not to be violated.

The results of the optimization is summarized in Table 3.5 for the maximum of each concentration, and in Table 3.6 for the minimum of each concentration.

Table 3.5

RESULTS FOR THE MAXIMUM CONCENTRATIONS  
FOR THE N-O SYSTEM

	Initial Concentration (moles/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Maximum Concentration (moles/cm <sup>3</sup> ) after 10 <sup>-4</sup> sec	Number of Function Evaluations	Number of Gradient Evaluations	Boundary States
O <sub>2</sub>	2.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.98 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	22	9	-----
O	0	4.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	13	5	+----+
N <sub>2</sub>	8.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	8.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	22	9	-----
N	0	8.58 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	17	10	+ - + + +
NO	0	4.70 x 10 <sup>-9</sup>	38	16	M - - M -

Table 3.6

RESULTS FOR THE MINIMUM CONCENTRATIONS  
FOR THE N-O SYSTEM

	Initial Concentration (moles/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Minimum Concentration (moles/cm <sup>3</sup> ) after 10 <sup>-4</sup> sec	Number of Function Evaluations	Number of Gradient Evaluations	Boundary Status
O <sub>2</sub>	2.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.34 x 10 <sup>-12</sup>	16	9	+ + + + -
O	0	9.12 x 10 <sup>-11</sup>	17	9	----+-
N <sub>2</sub>	8.00 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.69 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	25	10	+ - + + +
N	0	1.77 x 10 <sup>-15</sup>	14	7	----++
NO	0	5.51 x 10 <sup>-13</sup>	18	10	+----+

In both tables, the columns need no further explanation except for the column designated "Boundary Status." The codes +, -, M have a meaning best described by example. The boundary status of N in Table 3.5 is +-+++. This means  $k_1$ ,  $k_3$ ,  $k_4$  and  $k_5$  equal to their upper experimental uncertainty limit and  $k_2$  equals to its lower experimental uncertainty limit will produce the maximum concentration of N at  $10^{-4}$  sec. If an M appears in the  $i$ th position from the left, the optimal value of the concentration occurred for a value of the  $i$ th rate coefficient between its upper and lower experimental uncertainties. Only in the case of the maximization of NO did the extremum lie at an interior point for a particular rate constant.

Another observation may be made that the hyper-corner in which the maximum is found is not the reflection of that for the minimum of the same species. In this way this chemical system is more complicated than the simulation function considered earlier. This may be understood in terms of the chemical kinetics by consideration of an example, the N concentration. In Table 3.6, the N concentration is shown to be minimized by maximizing  $k_5$ . Referring to the reaction set on page 59 this is reasonable since reaction 5 contributes strongly in the forward direction since, by minimizing  $k_1$ , there is an abundance of  $O_2$  present. On the other hand, Table 3.5 also shows that the N concentrations will be maximized by maximizing  $k_5$ . In this case,  $k_1$  is large so that there is an abundance of O atoms, and the reverse of reaction 5 dominates. Therefore, to increase  $k_5$  increases the N concentration. It is questionable if results such as this could have been reached by chemical intuition alone, and we feel this exchange demonstrates a useful application of the method.

In addition to the information presented in Tables 3.5 and 3.6, one also has values of the gradients and output function at various points along a path from an initial point and the final optimum which can be useful and give a measure of the relative sensitivity of the output function to uncertainties in the various rate

coefficients. The method has the characteristic that the sampling of points emphasizes either large values or small values of a particular output function which might be suitable for problems in which either values of a concentration above or below some threshold is of interest, for example, in the investigation of the onset of radar blackout in the atmosphere as a function of various rate coefficients.

The optimization methods have the disadvantage that a separate analysis must be made for each output function of interest, whereas, in the Fourier method, the sensitivity of all species in the system may be investigated by using the same sample of points.

The cost of the optimization procedure (for one concentration) is less than the Fourier method in the sense that fewer function evaluations are necessary. This effect is more than balanced, however, by the increased cost required to evaluate the gradients since, for  $n$ -independent reaction rates the cost of performing the time integration of the derivatives is approximately  $n^2$  times greater than a calculation in which no gradients are computed. It may be that use of an optimization method such as DMIN2 or the SIMPLEX method<sup>(5)</sup> which replaces the gradient calculations by differences of previously calculated output functions may present a more economical alternative.

#### 4. SUMMARY AND FUTURE EFFORTS

Two types of methods have been developed to investigate the sensitivity of the results of complex calculations to uncertainties in the parameters entering the calculations, the Fourier method, and the optimization methods. For a particular output function, the Fourier method provides a sensitivity number for each independent reaction rate coefficient whose magnitude characterizes the relative importance of the uncertainty in that coefficient in determining the uncertainty in the output function. This relative importance is an average importance over the many dimensional domain of the reaction rates consistent with the experimental uncertainty in each rate. The optimization methods investigate both the value of the output function and its gradient with respect to the rate coefficients. The latter is a measure of local sensitivity at a point. The uncertainty space is not sampled uniformly, but regions with either large or small values of the output function are treated preferentially. These two methods have application to distinctly different classes of problems.

For the real chemical systems considered so far, there are some features of the sensitivity results that can be predicted before the calculation. There are others that can not be easily predicted beforehand, but can be verified qualitatively by hindsight. The quantitative results (which of two important rate uncertainties is most important) are often extremely hard to predict on intuitive grounds alone, and demonstrate the utility of the methods.

At present we feel that both methods are useful in answering different questions about certain systems. Since the Fourier method is least understood, and appears to be most promising from the standpoint of economy, our immediate plans are to concentrate on this method. First priority is to apply the method to a



wider class of non-equilibrium chemistry problems, in order to get a feel for the method. It will be advantageous for large systems (depending on more than, say, 20 independent reactions) to learn ways to split the system up into certain independent pieces for separate analysis. Another interesting question which will be addressed is to investigate alternate ways to calculate the multiple integral form of the Fourier coefficient using quadrature rules. This would eliminate the troublesome effects of interferences between frequencies.

There are improved optimization techniques which do not require the evaluation of the gradient, which may make these methods less expensive and, therefore, more useful. With these methods there is always the problem that an optimum is a local optimum and a global optimum requires many calculations beginning from different initial points. The selection of initial points is again a sampling problem, and it appears that considerable experience would be necessary to adequately investigate the uncertainty domain.

Another area for study is the selection of integration routines which will give results more economically. This is important since, for large systems, the calculation of the output function is the major expense. Perhaps accuracy could be sacrificed for speed in a sensitivity analysis.

Finally, the methods should be applied to a wide range of problems outside the area of non-equilibrium chemistry, for example, in the area of social systems modeling, or quality control modeling to determine their applicability to such systems.

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## Appendix A

### EQUIVALENCE OF RATIONAL AND INTEGER FREQUENCIES

Consider

$$I = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T ds \, g(\sin \omega_1 s, \dots, \sin \omega_j s, \dots, \sin \omega_M s) \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where only a finite number,  $M$ , of rational frequencies are present. By rational frequencies we mean that they may be represented by

$$\omega_j = \frac{p_j}{q_j}$$

where  $p_j$  and  $q_j$  are relatively prime integers.

Let

$$\bar{q} = \prod_{j=1}^M q_j$$

and

$$\bar{q} \omega_j = \omega'_j,$$

then  $\bar{q} \omega_j = \omega'_j$  is an integer, and Equation (A.1) may be rewritten

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T ds \, g(\sin \omega'_1 s/\bar{q}, \dots, \sin \omega'_M s/\bar{q}) \quad (\text{A.2})$$

But since  $g$  is a periodic function of  $s' = s/\bar{q}$  with period  $2\pi$  since all the

$\omega'_j$  are integers, this gives

$$I = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} ds' g(\sin \omega'_1 s', \dots, \sin \omega'_M s') \quad . \quad (A.3)$$

The infinite integral in Equation (A.1) with rational frequencies is therefore equal to a finite integral with integer frequencies.

## Appendix B

### EXTRACTION OF FOURIER AMPLITUDES BY A FINITE SUM

The purpose of this Appendix is to show that one can evaluate the Fourier amplitudes of a periodic function  $f(s)$  by the following prescription

$$\begin{Bmatrix} A_n \\ B_n \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \begin{Bmatrix} \sin(2\pi n \frac{\ell}{N}) \\ \cos(2\pi n \frac{\ell}{N}) \end{Bmatrix} f(2\pi \frac{\ell}{N}) + \text{alias amplitudes} \quad (\text{B. 1})$$

where  $A_n$  is defined in Equation (2.7), and  $B_n$  is the corresponding cosine amplitude.  $n$  is an integer  $\geq 0$  and  $f(2\pi) = f(0)$ . We shall prove this relation for  $A_n$ , the sine amplitudes only, although the proof can be directly extended to the cosine amplitudes,  $B_n$ . Consider

$$A_n^* \equiv \frac{2}{N} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \sin 2\pi n \frac{\ell}{N} f(2\pi \frac{\ell}{N}) \quad (\text{B. 2})$$

where

$$f(s) = B_0 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (A_m \sin ms + B_m \cos ms) .$$

Substituting  $f$  into  $A_n^*$  one must evaluate a sum of terms

$$A_{n,m}^* = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \text{Im}(e^{2\pi i n \ell / N}) A_m \sin(2\pi m \ell / N) , \quad (\text{B. 3})$$

$$A_{n,m}^* = -\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{Re} \sum_{\ell=1}^N \left[ e^{2\pi i(n+m)\ell/N} - e^{2\pi i(n-m)\ell/N} \right] A_m \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$= -\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{Re} \left[ \frac{e^{2\pi i(n+m)} - 1}{e^{2\pi i(n+m)/N} - 1} - \frac{e^{2\pi i(n-m)} - 1}{e^{2\pi i(n-m)/N} - 1} \right] A_m \quad (\text{B.5})$$

where we have used the formula

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^N r^\ell = (r^N - 1)/(r - 1) \quad .$$

In the brackets each term vanishes unless the denominator vanishes since  $e^{2\pi i p} = 1$  for  $p$  integer. Only special values of  $m$  relative to  $n$  will therefore contribute to  $A_n^*$ , and those are, for the first and second terms in the bracket, respectively,

$$m + n = qN \quad \text{condition 1} , \quad (\text{B.6})$$

and

$$|m - n| = qN \quad \text{condition 2} , \quad (\text{B.7})$$

where  $q$  is an integer  $\geq 0$ . For  $q = 0$ , only  $m = n$  contributes. For  $q \geq 1$ , let the special values of  $m$  satisfying conditions 1 and 2 be denoted  $m_1^*(q, n)$  and  $m_2^*(q, n)$ , respectively. Then, for  $N > n$ ,  $m_1^*(q, n)$  will be distinct from  $m_2^*(q, n)$  ( $n = 0$  is an exception which is uninteresting), and every such  $m_1^*$ , and  $m_2^*$  will contribute to  $A_n^*$ . Therefore

$$A_n^* = A_n + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \left[ A_{m_1^*(q, n)} + A_{m_2^*(q, n)} \right] . \quad (\text{B.8})$$

The sum in the above expression may be viewed as an error term to the evaluation  $A_n$ . The amplitudes in the error term are called "alias amplitudes" since an amplitude for frequency  $m^*(q, n)$  masquerades as one for frequency  $n$ . For  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , the error terms become small.

As discussed in Section 2.3.2 the input frequencies are chosen to be odd integers which have no interactions of order  $< 5$  which coincide with the input frequencies. Since the alias frequencies are equivalent to other frequencies, it is consistent to choose  $N$  sufficiently great that there are no aliases of interferences of order  $< 5$  which coincide with input frequencies either. Thus,  $N$  is chosen by trial and error so that condition 1 is satisfied,

$$\omega_i + \omega_m \neq qN \quad (B.9)$$

where  $\omega_i$  is an input frequency and  $\omega_m$  are all input frequencies and interferences of order less than or equal to 4. One can show that a sufficient condition to satisfy Equations (B.6) and (B.7) is

$$N > 4 \omega_{\max} , \quad N_{\text{even}} , \quad (B.10)$$

but by trial-and-error values of  $N$  slightly smaller than  $4 \omega_{\max}$  may be found.

## Appendix C

### A THEOREM

In this Appendix we present a theorem which relates the Fourier amplitude of a function to an average of the output function over the  $n$ -dimensional space spanned by the rate coefficient uncertainties.

**Theorem:** Assume  $f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  is a polynomial of order  $p-1$  in the  $u$ 's, over the domain

$$\begin{aligned} -u_1^0 &\leq u_1 \leq u_1^0 \\ &\vdots \\ -u_n^0 &\leq u_n \leq u_n^0 \end{aligned} .$$

Assume also a set of integer input frequencies  $\omega_i$ ,  $i = 1$ , which are chosen so that no interferences of the order of less than  $p$  coincide with any input frequency. Then the Fourier amplitude corresponding to the  $L$ th input frequency satisfies the following relation:

$$\begin{aligned} A_L &\equiv \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} ds \sin \omega_L s f(u_1(s), u_2(s) \dots u_n(s)) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^n} \int_{-u_1^0}^{u_1^0} du_1 \int_{-u_2^0}^{u_2^0} du_2 \dots \int_{-u_n^0}^{u_n^0} du_n \frac{u_L f(u_1, \dots u_n)}{u_L^0 \prod_{i=1}^n u_i^0 \sqrt{1 - (u_i/u_i^0)^2}} \end{aligned} \quad (C.1)$$



where

$$u_i(s) = u_i^0 \sin \omega_i s \quad .$$

Proof:

For convenience the two integrals in Equation (C.1) will be referred to as  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ , respectively. The first step is to transform  $I_2$  by the transformation

$$u_i = u_i^0 \sin \omega_i s_i \quad i = 1, n \quad (C.2)$$

then

$$I_2 = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_0^{2\pi} ds_1 \int_0^{2\pi} ds_2, \dots, \int_0^{2\pi} ds_n \sin \omega_L s_L f(u_1(s_1) \dots u_n(s_n)) \quad (C.3)$$

$$\equiv I_3 \quad .$$

The next step is to show that  $I_3 = I_1$  .

Since  $f$  is a polynomial of degree  $p-1$ , we can expand it in a Maclaurin series

$$f(u_1, \dots, u_n) = f_0 + \sum_i f_i u_i + \sum_{i,j} f_{ij} u_i u_j + \dots \quad (C.4)$$

where the last term contains a product of  $p-1$   $u$ 's. Substituting Equation (C.2) for the  $u_i$ ,  $i = 1, n$ , one obtains a series containing products of the form

$$\sin^{n_1}(\omega_1 s_1) \sin^{n_2}(\omega_2 s_2) \dots \quad (C.5)$$

These terms may be expanded using the relation

$$\left( e^{i\omega_i s_i} \right)^{n_i} = e^{i n_i \omega_i s_i} \quad .$$

Performing the  $s_i$  integrations one thus obtains

$$I_3 = u_L \left( \frac{f_L}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n f_{Lii} u_i^{o2} + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i,j=1}^n f_{Lijj} u_i^{o2} u_j^{o2} + \dots \right) \quad (C.6)$$

where all terms of  $f$  which are differentiated an odd number of times in  $u_L$  and an even number of times in all other  $u$ 's contribute through derivatives of order  $p-1$ .

If one makes the substitution

$$u_i = u_i^0 \sin \omega_i s \quad (C.7)$$

into the Equation (C.4) and substitutes that into  $I_1$ , one finds terms of the form

$$\sin^{n_1}(\omega_1 s) \sin^{n_2}(\omega_2 s) \dots \quad (C.8)$$

which is slightly different from Equation (C.5) in that the same  $s$  appears in each term in the product. The result is that when the expansion is made to reduce such a term to one linear in the sines or cosines, frequencies appear which are interferences of the input frequencies. In fact, since  $f$  is of order  $p-1$  in the  $u$ 's, interference frequencies which are of order  $p-1$  will appear in the spectrum of  $f$ . But the frequency set was hypothesized to be free of  $p-1$ th order interferences coinciding with an input frequency such as  $\omega_L$ . Therefore, only the terms in  $f$  which are of odd order in  $u_L$  and even order in all other  $u$ 's will contribute. But that is the same set of terms as appears in  $I_3$ . Therefore,

$$I_1 = I_3 \quad (C.9)$$

In the case that  $f$  is of higher order than  $p-1$  in the  $u$ 's, one can estimate the error between  $I_1$  and  $I_3$ . ( $I_2 = I_3$  independent of frequencies.) For definiteness, choose  $p = 5$ , which characterize the frequency sets used in the applications in Section 2, and assume  $f$  has a fifth order component

$$f_{jklmq} u_j u_k u_l u_m u_q \quad (C.10)$$

with  $j, k, l, m, q$  all different. Substituting according to Equation (C.2) into  $f$  in  $I_3$  gives zero contribution to  $I_3$ . On the other hand, if one substitutes for this fifth order term into  $I_1$  according to Equation (C.7), one can expand the product (C.10) to be

$$\frac{f_{jklmq}}{16} \left[ \begin{aligned} &\sin(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 + \omega_4 + \omega_5)s - \sin(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 + \omega_4 - \omega_5)s \\ &+ \sin(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 - \omega_4 - \omega_5)s - \sin(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 - \omega_4 + \omega_5)s \\ &+ \dots \end{aligned} \right] \cdot \quad (C.11)$$

If there exist frequencies  $\omega_j, \omega_k, \dots, \omega_q$  such that one of the 16 interference frequencies in Equation (C.11) coincides with  $\omega_L$ , the contribution from the fifth order term will contribute to  $I_1$ . Since the order of this contribution is

$$O(f^{(p)}/2^{(p-1)}),$$

we can write for a general function  $f$ ,

$$I_1 = I_2 + O(f^{(p)}/2^{(p-1)}) \quad (C.12)$$